SANDF secures peaceful elections in the Comoros
Letters: feedback from our readers

Communicate specialist knowledge and skills

Our Deputy Minister updated on naval issues

Inauguration ceremony held for generals

Captains of Industry dining together

Securing the elections in the Comoros

Current state of our Air Force

Protect all whistle-blowers

Female Admiral does the Department proud

Proud to be women in the SANDF

Service Corps to the rescue

Zimbabwe flying instructors at Langebaanweg

Air Force receives two Hawks

The star behind marketing the Reserve Force

UK/RSA Leadership and Management Development Programme

Reserve Force gives a postal service

Cut down on official telephone costs

Spotting young talent at Army roadshows

Classifieds of SA Soldier

MSD training at the SAMHS Academy

Preventing and combating terrorism

Golf Day spreads goodwill

An ongoing war against fears

Success chapter of civic education

Reserve Force gives a postal service

Cut down on official telephone costs

Spotting young talent at Army roadshows

Classifieds of SA Soldier

MSD training at the SAMHS Academy

Preventing and combating terrorism

Golf Day spreads goodwill

An ongoing war against fears

Success chapter of civic education
SA SOLDIER is published monthly - 12 issues per year. The views and opinions expressed by the authors of articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Department of Defence (DOD). Acceptance and publication of advertorial and advertising matter in SA SOLDIER does not constitute DOD endorsement or warranty in respect of goods or services therein described. The DOD does not assume any liability in respect of any claims made in advertisements.

COPYRIGHT: No article or picture in this magazine may be reproduced without the written consent of the Editor.

FRONT COVER: Pte Vuyo Ndaba from 9 SAI Bn shows one of the Comorians where to go to cast his vote. Read more about the presidential elections in the Union of the Comoros and the captivating journey of the team of SA Soldier on pages 14 to 16. (Photo: Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole)

For the latest news on defence matters in South Africa, visit our website at: www.sasoldier.mil.za
From the Editor’s desk

SA SOLDIER got the opportunity to go to the Comoros to provide media coverage for the presidential elections there from 11 to 19 May 2006. The team of SA SOLDIER spoke to the local people about the upcoming elections and witnessed firsthand how our soldiers helped safeguard the elections in the Comoros. Read more about the captivating journey of the team on pages 14 to 16.

The Department of Defence is trying by every means possible to clamp down on fraud and corruption in the organisation, and with this aim in view the first Fraud Prevention Workshop was held in Nelspruit. The workshop was hosted by the Inspector General of the DOD, Maj Gen Mxolisi Petane, and its mandate was to establish an effective fraud prevention plan to protect the assets and resources of the Department of Defence. "I appeal to the grass-roots level to inform us as the leadership about any wrongdoing, because the vast majority of these crimes are happening there," said Maj Gen Petane at the workshop. Read more about whistle-blowing and the protection of whistle-blowers on page 18.

Our female Admiral does the Department proud. We salute R Adm (JG) K. Litchfield-Tshabalala, Director Fleet Human Resources, who was one of the women to win the Best Mentorship Contribution Award. This award is presented to "a woman who has made a significant contribution to her organisation in mentoring and coaching other women for management positions. This woman invests in the future of women and her organisation in a dedicated and exceptional way". The International Quality & Productivity Centre (IQPC) organised this awards ceremony for the most outstanding women in the public sector, and state owned enterprises. Read more about our Admiral and the other eight winners chosen among 150 nominations on page 19.

The first National Conference for Women in Defence could not have come at a better time because the conference not only represented a time for serious dialogue, but a moment to celebrate. These were the words of Mr January Masilela, the Secretary for Defence, when he officially declared the conference open. Read more about this historic occasion on pages 20 to 22.

The August edition of SA SOLDIER will be dedicated to all our women in the Department of Defence. Our country is also celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Women’s March to the Union Buildings. Do not miss out on this special edition!

Look out, you could be the winner! - The winner of the Spot the Ball soccer competition of SA SOLDIER will be published in the August 2006 edition.

Nelda Pienaar
Editor

Van die redakteur se lessenaar

SA SOLDIER het die geleentheid gekry om na die Comore van 11 tot 19 Mei 2006 te gaan om mediadekking aan die presidentele verkiesings daar te verleen. Die span van SA SOLDIER het met die plaaslike bevolking oor die voorgang van verkiesings gesels en het eerstehands gesien hoe ons sol- dat gehep het om die verkiesings in die Comore te beveilig. Lees meer oor die interessante reis van die span op bladsye 14 tot 16.

Die Departement van Verdediging probeer om op elke moontlike manier bedrog en korruptie in die organisasie te bekamp. Daarom is die eerste Bedrogsvoorkomende werkswinkel in Nelspruit gehou. Die Inspekteur-generaal van die Departement van Verdediging, genl maj Mxolisi Petane, was die gasheer vir die werkswinkel gewees. Die mandaat van laaggeplaseerde is om ’n effektiewe bedrogsvoorkomende plan daar te stel om die bates en hulpbronne van die Departement van Verdediging te beskerm. "Ek doen ’n beroep op die voetsoolvaklak om ons as die leierskors in te lig ook enige misdryf aangesien die meeste van hierdie misdaad op grond- vlak gebeur,” het genl Maj Petane by die werkswinkel gesê. Lees meer oor verklikkery en die beskerming van verklikkers op bladsy 18.

Die Departement van Verdediging probeer om op elke moontlike manier bedrog en korruptie in die organisasie te bekamp. Daarom is die eerste Bedrogsvoorkomende werkswinkel in Nelspruit gehou. Die Inspekteur-generaal van die Departement van Verdediging, genl maj Mxolisi Petane, was die gasheer vir die werkswinkel gewees. Die mandaat van laaggeplaseerde is om ’n effektiewe bedrogsvoorkomende plan daar te stel om die bates en hulpbronne van die Departement van Verdediging te beskerm. "Ek doen ’n beroep op die voetsoolvaklak om ons as die leierskors in te lig ook enige misdryf aangesien die meeste van hierdie misdaad op grond- vlak gebeur,” het genl Maj Petane by die werkswinkel gesê. Lees meer oor verklikkery en die beskerming van verklikkers op bladsy 18.

Die Departement van Verdediging probeer om op elke moontlike manier bedrog en korruptie in die organisasie te bekamp. Daarom is die eerste Bedrogsvoorkomende werkswinkel in Nelspruit gehou. Die Inspekteur-generaal van die Departement van Verdediging, genl maj Mxolisi Petane, was die gasheer vir die werkswinkel gewees. Die mandaat van laaggeplaseerde is om ’n effektiewe bedrogsvoorkomende plan daar te stel om die bates en hulpbronne van die Departement van Verdediging te beskerm. "Ek doen ’n beroep op die voetsoolvaklak om ons as die leierskors in te lig ook enige misdryf aangesien die meeste van hierdie misdaad op grond- vlak gebeur,” het genl Maj Petane by die werkswinkel gesê. Lees meer oor verklikkery en die beskerming van verklikkers op bladsy 18.

Die Departement van Verdediging probeer om op elke moontlike manier bedrog en korruptie in die organisasie te bekamp. Daarom is die eerste Bedrogsvoorkomende werkswinkel in Nelspruit gehou. Die Inspekteur-generaal van die Departement van Verdediging, genl maj Mxolisi Petane, was die gasheer vir die werkswinkel gewees. Die mandaat van laaggeplaseerde is om ’n effektiewe bedrogsvoorkomende plan daar te stel om die bates en hulpbronne van die Departement van Verdediging te beskerm. "Ek doen ’n beroep op die voetsoolvaklak om ons as die leierskors in te lig ook enige misdryf aangesien die meeste van hierdie misdaad op grond- vlak gebeur,” het genl Maj Petane by die werkswinkel gesê. Lees meer oor verklikkery en die beskerming van verklikkers op bladsy 18.

Die Departement van Verdediging probeer om op elke moontlike manier bedrog en korruptie in die organisasie te bekamp. Daarom is die eerste Bedrogsvoorkomende werkswinkel in Nelspruit gehou. Die Inspekteur-generaal van die Departement van Verdediging, genl maj Mxolisi Petane, was die gasheer vir die werkswinkel gewees. Die mandaat van laaggeplaseerde is om ’n effektiewe bedrogsvoorkomende plan daar te stel om die bates en hulpbronne van die Departement van Verdediging te beskerm. "Ek doen ’n beroep op die voetsoolvaklak om ons as die leierskors in te lig ook enige misdryf aangesien die meeste van hierdie misdaad op grond- vlak gebeur,” het genl Maj Petane by die werkswinkel gesê. Lees meer oor verklikkery en die beskerming van verklikkers op bladsy 18.

Die Departement van Verdediging probeer om op elke moontlike manier bedrog en korruptie in die organisasie te bekamp. Daarom is die eerste Bedrogsvoorkomende werkswinkel in Nelspruit gehou. Die Inspekteur-generaal van die Departement van Verdediging, genl maj Mxolisi Petane, was die gasheer vir die werkswinkel gewees. Die mandaat van laaggeplaseerde is om ’n effektiewe bedrogsvoorkomende plan daar te stel om die bates en hulpbronne van die Departement van Verdediging te beskerm. "Ek doen ’n beroep op die voetsoolvaklak om ons as die leierskors in te lig ook enige misdryf aangesien die meeste van hierdie misdaad op grond- vlak gebeur,” het genl Maj Petane by die werkswinkel gesê. Lees meer oor verklikkery en die beskerming van verklikkers op bladsy 18.

The Department is trots op ons vroulike admiral. Ons bring huide aan skout-admiraal (JG) K. Litchfield-Tshabalala, Direkteur Vloot Menslike Hulpbronne, wat een van die vroue was wat die Beste Mentorskapsbydraetoekeening gewen het. Dié toekenning word toegekan aan "n vrou wat ’n betekenisvolle bydrae in haar organisasie gelewer het deur as mentor en raadgewer ander vroue vir bestuursposte bemagtig het. Hierdie vrou belê op ’n toegewyde en besonderse manier in die toekoms van vroue en haar organisasie. Die IQPC - International Quality & Productivity Centre (Internasionale Kwaliteit en Produktiwiteitsentrum) het hierdie toekenningsere- monie vir die mees uitstaande vroue in die openbare sektor en ondernemings in staatsbesit georganiseer. Lees meer op bladsy 19 omtrent ons admiral en die agt ander wenners wat uit 150 nomi- nasies verkies is.

Die eerste Nasionale Konferensie vir Vroue in Verdediging kon nie op ’n beter tyd plaasgevind het nie aangesien dit nie net die regte tyd was vir ernstige dialoog nie, maar ook die regte tyd om fees te vier. Dit was die woorde van mnr January Masilela, die Sekretaris van Verdediging, toe hy die konferensie amptelik geopen het. Lees meer oor hierdie historiese geleentheid op bladsye 20 tot 22.

Die Augustus-uitgawe van SA SOLDIER sal aan al ons vroue in die Departement van Verdediging gewy word. Ons land vier dit nie verni- et die vyftigste herdenking van die Vroue-opmars na die Uniegebou vanjaar nie. Moet nie dié spesiale uitgawe misloop nie!

Kyk mooi, jy kan die wenner wees! - Die wenner van die Spot the Ball sokkerkompetisie van SA SOLDIER sal in die Augustus 2006-uitgawe gepubliseer word. (Vertaal in Afrikaans deur mnr Eugene Muller)

Nelda Pienaar
Redakteur
LOW KILOMETRE VEHICLES AT A DISCOUNT!

AUTO PEDIGREE, the largest used vehicle dealer in the country offers you:

- A 3% discount off our competitive prices on all used vehicles
- A wide range to choose from
- Guaranteed kilometres
- An unconditional 7-day exchange plan
- Top prices paid for trade-ins
- Quick and easy finance arranged
- An optional 2 year/40 000 km warranty

• BMW 318 • Colt Rodeo 3000 Double Cab • Mercedes Benz C180 Classic
• Nissan Almera • Opel Corsa Lite • Opel Astra • Toyota Concor • Toyota Camry 200
• Toyota Tazz 130 • Toyota Corolla 130 & 160 • Toyota Hilux 4X4 Double Cab
• VW Microbus 2.3 • VW Polo Playa ... and many more!

3% discount to SANDF members and Support Staff

OVER 3 000 CARS & BAKKIES TO CHOOSE FROM!

Proof of membership is required

Toll Free Tel: 0860 11 11 33 Web: www.autopedigree.co.za

AUTO PEDIGREE - You deserve a great deal!
How to become a real parent

It is a good thing to have enough time as a parent to play games you’re your kids. This is something that becomes a big moment in their lives. A “surprise” in the family can play an important role in terms of building trust. You can surprise your family, eg a man preparing breakfast for his wife, while she is still in bed so that she can sleep a little bit longer. Partners who make surprises ensure that their partners are satisfied. People must remember that communication plays an important role in solving problems or differences. It is nice to know your kids can assist you in solving problems or differences. It is the responsibility of both parents to take their children to school and to fetch them as well. Both of the parents must be involved in decision-making regarding the children. Do not go early to work and return home late when your kids are already in bed. A child is a person who likes to be complimented at all times. When your child(ren) or partner has done an excellent job, they must be complimented. Your children must learn about relationships from their parents. Set an example for them. Treat your partners and kids with respect.

There are so many actions that can be taken to make sure that your spouse trusts you. Imagine how painful it is to be involved in an accident? Be a person of your word at all times, because that will play a role in building trust between you and your family members. People must remember that no-one was born empty pride - Sgt Mlangeni Paulos, Pretoria.

Bravo peacekeepers!

The Chief of the SANDF, Gen Godfrey Ngwenya, kindly conveys his gratitude and appreciation to all members of the Services who participated in support of Operation FIBRE. Their contribution and efforts were noted and appreciated.

The following letter of appreciation for services rendered in support of Operation FIBRE (ONUB) refers:

“...I am proud to have had such professionals as part of the peacekeeping force in the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB) and they have brought honour both to their country and to the United Nations. The thanks of ONUB’s former SRSG, Ms Carolyn McAskie, is also extended through this letter.

“...I am proud to have had such professionals as part of the peacekeeping force in the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB) and they have brought honour both to their country and to the United Nations. The thanks of ONUB’s former SRSG, Ms Carolyn McAskie, is also extended through this letter.

R200-00 prize for the best letter

SA SOLDIER welcomes letters to the Editor. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters may be edited for reasons of style, accuracy or space limitations. Letters should preferably be typewritten and double-spaced. All letters must include the writer’s full name, address and home telephone number. The volume of letters we receive makes individual acknowledgement impossible. Please send your letters to: The Editor, SA SOLDIER Letters, Private Bag X158, Pretoria, 0001. Letters may also be faxed to (012) 355-6399 or sent via email to sasoldier@mil.za. We would like to hear your comments or ideas, particularly about matters affecting members of the Department of Defence. Regrettably, anonymous letters cannot be answered officially or published - Editor.
A tour of duty to remember

RSA Task Force VI started its tour of duty in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in October 2005. Right from the beginning the emphasis was placed on good discipline and the acceptance by all members of the adult approach.

These two principles were reflected in the sound and professional manner in which the handing and taking over was completed and finalised. The new rotation took over without any member fearing being undermined or not knowing what his or her task and responsibilities were.

The Task Force ended its stay in the DRC as part of the MONUC forces deployed in May 2006. Yet again its exit was completed without any problems or incidents. The above-mentioned principles applied to the whole South African contingent. This was one of the most successful external deployments of the SANDF. The factors that contributed to the success obtained and achieved by Task Force VI is a direct result of the following:

Cohesive command cadre: The task force commander, Col M.D. Mmbi, took the leading role. The command group of the HQ was deployed for 12 months and this provided consistency to the force deployed. Clear guidelines and ground rules given to the FSE commanders by the commander contributed greatly to the success of the mission. All the commanders knew where to turn to when the going was tough and the soldiers on the ground were well aware of what was expected of them.

Col Mmbi and Lt Col Uys -

Command and Control: An excellent command and control structure was put in place at the contingent HQ. This was delegated to the other South African bases by means of clear guidelines, orders and SOPs. Everybody knew at all times what to do and how to do it. For the first time in any deployment the routine and work procedures in all South African bases were exactly the same.

Zero tolerance: The zero tolerance code was followed. Members who committed crimes and who were involved in incidents and charged, were immediately repatriated if found guilty. This code was not seen by the members as a deterrent to get them out of the mission area, but served as motivation to do the job in a professional manner. Of all contingents deployed previously, the legal statistics of Task Force VI were the lowest ever.

Flexibility, mobility and adaptability: On numerous occasions different FSEs were tasked to operate under the most extreme conditions. This they did without any complaints. What laid the foundation for the successful operations were the mobility, flexibility and the adaptability of the South African soldier. Operational successes were achieved with the minimum of equipment. The conditions under which they operated were not easy. If one looks at the congratulatory messages that the task force received from the Eastern Division, the other military contingents and the international staff of MONUC, one does not have to guess why this mission was probably the most successful.

Members on patrol during Operation ENGRAVER.

Upliftment of the SANDF: The negative attitude that some of the peace workers and members of the local population had about the SANDF soldiers was turned around in a positive way. Almost no acts of crime or abuse were committed against the population of the DRC. This resulted in the population having a more positive and friendly attitude towards our soldiers.

Maintaining of good relationships: Sound and good relationships were maintained with other military contingents, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the International staff of MONUC. This was a major contributing factor towards the success achieved by the force. The assistance we received was of a very high and professional standard and the same standard will be expected of the new contingent.

Col Mmbi and Madam France (Head of Office in Kindu)

We wish the returning force all the best and a happy reunion with their families and loved ones. When he paid a visit to the new contingent at De Brug, ground rules where enforced in respect of all new deployed members by Col Mmbi. He also emphasized that the zero tolerance code and an adult approach will at all times be adhered to. Task Force VII committed itself to doing better than their predecessors. We wish Task Force VII everything of the best for its deployment period. We salute Task Force VI for a job well done!

- Maj C.R. Thomas, Public Info Officer, Kindu, DRC

Burundi

You might have gone through the fire, and you might have gone through the water, but surely the Lord will bring you to a place of abundance and prosperity. Your walls will be rebuilt, your buildings be restored, and your people be reconciled. It’s the Lord who’s feeding you, with the fruits of the fields and the crops of the land. He is nourishing you with curds of milk from herd and flock, with fattened lambs and goats, and with the finest coffee, tea and beans.

Rise up! Burundi, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Rejoice, O nations, together with Burundi, for what the Lord has done for them. For the Lord is their great reward -

CPO Johan Smit, JSB Garrison
Rafiki night in the Congo

Outside it was muddy, rain still pelting down and the sun was scorching Basoko location, but at least there was a welcome soothing breeze. Inside, the dance floor was swimming with bodies swinging elegantly to the melodies of Congolese, South African and Indian songs belted out by the undisputed “DJ” of the contingent, WO1 J.H. Meintjies. This happened on Friday 2 September 2005. The Congolese beauty was the theme of the night, but strangely the occasion was called Rafiki night. Rafiki is a Swahili term meaning friend.

The guests, clad in their most beautiful Congolese outfits acquired during their tour of duty, danced the night away. The hall was transformed into the fashion capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as varied Congolese designs were put on show by the dazzling RSA contingent. The director of projects, Maj Leon van Wyk, did not disappoint. He enthralled the guests with his humour, noting that we were all now Congolese and the Mai-Mai (warriors) would battle to identify their opponents. Not to be outdone the Mai-Mai made their entrance clad in their war regalia to perform their energetic war dance. The versatility of the RSA contingent and their ubuntu were evident throughout the event. Ties of friendship were established all around with the locals and the Bolivian, Indian and Milob contingents.

Warrant Officer K.G. Mokoena calmed us with a fitting poetic rendition of all the maladies in the DRC. He gave hope and inspiration to the locals present at this gala event. The RSA contingent was urged to continue with their efforts at maintaining stability and peace and thus creating room for the development of the DRC and its people. The guest of honour, Marrie France Heliere, the Head of the UN Office in Kindu, sat admiring the indomitable spirit of the RSA contingent that had made its neighbours so joyful through the most elementary of gestures, which amounted to the extension of a hand of friendship. A buffet fit for kings was set for all and sundry, with more than sufficient for second helpings.

The best dressed Rafikis of the night were Cpl Chantell Botes, who was thought to have imported her costume well in advance from the remotest town, Shabunda, in the eastern part of the Congo. Susan Koaho stole the show too with her flowing robe. The origin of her attire is still the best kept secret in the base. The men were not to be left behind. Cpl Goodboy Bongani Cele charmed everyone with his regal white suit as he sauntered around on stage. Cpl Zachariah Kekae added exotic spice to the occasion by donning his beloved wife’s costume to match the high standard. Their efforts earned them each the most sought after champagnes.

The organisers of this occasion, the Main Headquarters under the apt leadership of Maj Victor Baadjies, deserve heartfelt congratulations for work well done. They ensured that the members were never bored, but that they engaged in meaningful interaction with other stakeholders. Their dedication to upholding the well-being of the RSA contingent cannot be faulted. Basoko Base felt like home even though it was thousands of miles from South Africa. Their role made deployment bearable. Time flew as expectations ran high among soldiers about what was planned next - Maj Pricilla Lengoase, Pretoria.

Magazine for sale

Although I stand to be corrected, this magazine’s predecessor (SALUT) used to be commercially available. Also, I want to state the obvious, namely that I have always understood that a commercially accessible publication will more often than not catch an unsuspecting, potential reader and, who knows, maybe even an odd advertiser.

I have come to the conclusion that SA Soldier, as we know it today, is not readily available at your regular newsagent. Is this true? If not, then why is this the case? Is it perhaps some DOD policy or regulation that prevents this from happening? Maybe the Editorial Board sees no commercial sense in embarking on rigorous marketing and circulation? This enquiry is based on the argument that these days no news of the Defence Force is worth anything unless it is bad. Even top international Defence publications have yet to write anything objective or positive about the SANDF in particular. If it is not some personal scandal, you will read of some mismanagement and incompetence “at the top”. Are we really that bad? That is then why I feel that the general public would benefit greatly were they to be afforded a real chance to discover for themselves what really happens inside the DOD. To achieve this would be easy. They would only need to find a copy of SA Soldier and read it. I am forever irked by the mainstream media’s desperate attempts to discredit the DOD at the slightest chance available. Are these the doomsayers who’d rather not have a Defence Force to be proud of? Or is it a band of economic analysts who see the military as an unnecessary drain on the nation’s resources? Maybe it is the disgruntled former employees who have unfinished business or some score to settle with the Defence Force.

I believe a well proportioned SA Soldier edition (like you have at present), readily available at newsagents would serve to inform and educate Mr John Averag e out there. At the same time it could not be the Department’s biased, stereotypical mouthpiece, like most publications are these days! - Ronnie Msomi, Middelburg.

* Your views and interest in SA Soldier are very much appreciated. You are quite right; the predecessor of SA Soldier used to be commercially available, but the magazine was also not subsidised nor provided free of charge to its subscribers. At this stage SA SOLDIER cannot be sold because it is fully subsidised by the State and is free of charge only for members of the Department of Defence.

The option to become a subscriber does not currently exist. Therefore potential readers are welcome to visit our website: www.sasoldier.mil.za in order to have access to their own electronic version of SA Soldier on a monthly basis - Ed.
Tankers Classic for a good cause

It is good sometimes for soldiers to have fun by playing sport and to forget about their core business for a while as they entertain friends of 1 SA Tank Regiment unit. It gives you an even better feeling to know that the event you are participating in is for a good cause.

1 SA Tank Regiment hosted their Tankers Classic Golf Day in Bloemfontein on 3 March 2006 in which golfers and their sponsors participated. Tankers Classic is an annual event at 1 SA Tank Regiment. The aim of the event is to keep close relationships with friends of 1 SA Tank Regiment and generate funds to support the Sunflower House (Hospice) Aids orphans’ project.

Hospice is a specialised programme of palliative care for people with progressive and incurable conditions. Palliative care for children is the care of the child’s body, mind and spirit as well as support for the family or guardians that carry on throughout the course of the illness and into the bereavement period. Sunflower House is situated at the National District Hospital in Bloemfontein and provides a haven for children who are dying, and who require pain and symptom management.

1 SA Tank Regiment decided to support this Hospice Project and organised a golf day to generate funds. The Tankers Classic started with a sponsors’ function at 1 SA Tank Regiment on 2 March 2006. As part of Armour’s traditional formalities during a Shot Action, Maj Hendrik Stander, appointed as master of ceremonies, welcomed everybody, whereafter the RSM of 1 SA Tank Regiment, WO1 Andre Jansen van Rensburg, lit the flame of the Armour to symbolise the inextinguishable spirit and energy of the SA Armoured Corps. After the flame was lit, the symbolic explanation of the Flame of the Armour was read and a toast was proposed to the fallen Armour members. The sponsors were thanked for their huge contribution to making this day a success.

The SA Army Armour Formation Sergeant Major, WO1 Floors Venter, was also honoured with an Honorary Tanker Certificate. This certificate symbolises the loyalty and commitment of a member who has been part of the tanker environment for a very long period and is also given to a member with the most knowledge of this branch of the armed forces.

Maj J.P. van Rooyen, the Acting Officer Commanding of 1 SA Tank Regiment, explained to all participants the involvement of the Regiment with the Hospice during 2005. Mr Richards Marsden, a representative of the St Nicholas Children’s Hospice, gave a short background on the Sunflower House and made everyone aware of the needs of the hospice. He also thanked the sponsors for their support.

At the prize-giving ceremony Mr Marsden had the honour of handing out the prizes. The third place went to Mr C. Minnaar and Mr E. Theron, the second place to Mr H. Nichols and Mr F. Potgieter and the winners on the day were Mr I. Heneke and Mr E. Gordon - Lt Layzer Maswanganyi, Bloemfontein.

Amuse the little ones

On 24 February 2006 the Officer Commanding of DOD Mobilisation Centre, Col Elvis Mathaba, hosted the destination venue for the Spoornet Tiny Tots Children’s Train Project. The Spoornet Children’s Train forms part of the annual fundraising projects of Child Welfare Bloemfontein and Childline Free State. The train departed from Bloemfontein Station for the DOD Mobilisation Centre’s Olienhoutplaat Station with 1 121 children from the greater Bloemfontein area. The personnel of DOD Mobilisation Centre transported the children to a facility in the unit where the children were entertained with various activities, which included a puppet show and a sing-along. Addressing the visitors Col Mathaba said that the DOD Mobilisation Centre was committed to serving the community by extending a hand of friendship in the true spirit of the Government’s initiative - Batho Pele. The DOD Mobilisation Centre successfully hosted a similar project, with Spoornet and Child Welfare, during November 2005 when 800 children spent the day at the unit. The success that the unit has achieved with communication projects such as these proves that the DOD has the resources to ensure that a positive image of the organisation is received in local communities - Ms Nicky de Ru, Bloemfontein.

Money available to Home owners

Immediate principal approval
Rates from 8.5%
R20 000 @ R170
R150 000 @ R1 275
Any amount can be requested
Improve your home
Buy a Car

LEGAL Bond

Money available to Home owners
Immediate principal approval
Rates from 8.5%
R20 000 @ R170
R150 000 @ R1 275
Any amount can be requested
Improve your home
Buy a Car

082 440 2793
012 346 5444
legalbond@sentechsa.com
Reg No. 2005/084921/23
The military relationships between South Africa and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam were further fostered when a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) were recently signed between the two Ministries of Defence of the two countries concerning defence co-operation.

The Minister of Defence, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, welcomed his counterpart from Vietnam, Gen Pham Van Tra, and his delegation on their first visit to South Africa. The latter hosted the RSA/Vietnam Defence talks over the period 8 to 12 May 2006.

During the signing of the MOU Minister Lekota said: "My visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam during October last year was an immense privilege and a wonderful experience. I will not forget your hospitality, kindness and the continued solidarity of your people towards South Africa, a reminder of a shared history of the protracted struggles for freedom of two countries so far apart and yet so close in spirit.

"I felt especially privileged to meet the legendary General Giap, considered by many of us as one of the greatest military leaders of the 20th century. That was certainly a moment to cherish.

"Your acceptance of my invitation to visit South Africa is tangible evidence of the importance of the long-standing and strategic relationship between our two countries."

Minister Lekota added: "We have now reached the stage where concrete co-operation programmes can be agreed upon as witnessed by the signing of this MOU on defence co-operation."

"South Africa and Vietnam have a lot in common ranging from the shared history of resistance against colonial oppressors through successful armed struggles, to ongoing governmental campaigns of job creation, skills development, social upliftment, economic growth and poverty alleviation."

In conclusion Minister Lekota said that South Africa had celebrated the 10th anniversary of a constitution that ensures that every South African has an equal right to quality life and human dignity, the foundation of our democracy on 8 May 2006. "Today we sign an agreement that symbolises our commitment to defend this Constitution."

The parties agreed to co-operate in the following areas: defence-industrial co-operation, defence intelligence, military training and education, logistics, military health, military sport and culture, and defence management. The forms of co-operation will include reciprocal high-level visits, naval ship and air force aircraft visits, exchange of students, exchange of experts, exchange of defence-related information, exchange of military knowledge and expertise, and direct sales of defence equipment and provision of services.
Our Deputy Minister updated on naval issues

Article courtesy *Navy News*

Photo: LS Byron Lombard

The Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Mluleki George, attended a workshop at Wardroom Job Masego in Simon’s Town on 19 May 2006. The aim of the workshop was to brief Mr George on affirmative action in the SA Navy, as well as enablement training for divers from Kenya, initiatives for members with disabilities and auditable human resource implementation measures. The workshop was presented by the Director Fleet Human Resources Plans, R Adm (JG) Khanyisile Litchfield-Tshabalala. The Inspector General of the SA Navy, R Adm (JG) Dennis Forrest, spoke on discipline in the SA Navy, pointing out past perceptions, present statistics and future projects. The Director of Naval Personnel, R Adm (JG) John Barker, briefed Mr George about career management, career advancement initiatives, human resource management, advancement tracking, the Military Skills Development (MSD) Certificate Programme and career models in the SA Navy. The Flag Officer Commanding Naval Base Simon’s Town, R Adm (JG) Sagaren Pillay, briefed the delegation on general infrastructure, security, harbour facilities, accommodation facilities, new developments, future developments, maintenance, repair and the overall status of facilities.

The Deputy Minister of Defence concluded the workshop by thanking all present and expressed his satisfaction with the report. He said: “The culture of the military must be developed and people must be treated fairly. Their accommodation and facilities must be in good condition. We are responsible for building an efficient force and a Navy family.”

Sweden courtesy visit

The Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Mluleki George (left), and his counterpart from Sweden, Mr J. Hjelm, held a Defence Staff Talk meeting in Cape Town during Mr Hjelm’s official visit over the period 22 to 23 May 2006. (Photo courtesy *Navy News*)
An inauguration ceremony for newly appointed generals in the SA Army was held at the SA Army College in Thaba Tshwane, Pretoria, on 11 April 2006. The chief functionary was the Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Solly Shoke, who inaugurated the newly appointed generals. In his speech he mentioned that he was aware of people who had served in certain ranks for more than five years. This was tantamount to neglect, and he aimed to change this unacceptable situation. He told the generals present that becoming a general was a great achievement that would not be achieved by many. Lt Gen Shoke reminded them that this was not an easy task. He urged the generals to serve the people without favour, and in the interests of the country as a whole. He said that they were expected to rise above the rest and serve as father figures, but at times they would be biased because of the human element. Lt Gen Shoke reminded them that the SA Army was in line with the current reality in Africa, and was thus active in peace support operations on the continent. The Chief of the SA Army added: "If your neighbours are hungry they will steal from you, so help them so that they will not steal from you." In closing he made the point that even if there were no wars to be fought at the present time, we should always be ready. "Welcome to the newly appointed generals, it is a tough job ahead. Interact with each other in order to work well together." After the ceremony the generals had time to get to know each other on a social level, which helped ready them for the tough job ahead.

By Lethube Phasha
Photo: Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole

An inauguration ceremony held for generals

All the generals who attended the inauguration ceremony.

The English version of this article is available at the top of this page. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.

Moletlo wa tlhomamišo semmušo ya bogenerale

Moletlo wa tlhomamišo semmušo ya bogenerale ba SA Army bao ba sa tšwago go thwalwa o swaretšwe SA Army College, Thaba Tshwane, Pretoria ka la 11 Aporele 2006. Mohlomphegimogolo e be e le Molaodimogolo wa SA Army, Lt Gen Solly Shoke wo a tlhomamišišešiši bogenerale ba sa tšwago go thwalwa semmušo. Mo polelong ya gwgwe o laediši gore o a lemoga gore go na le maloko ao a šomilego mengwaga ya go feta e mehlano ba sa tihašišwe. Se se swana le go tlhomokologwa mme o ikemišedišišiši go fetola seemo se sa go se amožèlego. O bodiši bogenerale bao gore go ba generale ke phelelelelele e kgolo eo e ka se fiilelelele le ke ba bantši. Lt Gen Shoke o ba gopoditše gore se ga se mošomo wo bonolo. O ba hlohleledišišiši go direla batho ntle le tlhaolo, empa go direla dikgahlele tša naga ka bophara. O rile go holofetšwe gore ba eme ka maoto mme ba be bjalo ka bannanna le basadisadi eupša ka nako tše dingwe ba ka ikhwetša ba tša lehlakore gobane ke batho ba nama le bona. Lt Gen Shoke o ba gopoditše gore SA Army e maemong a tee le tše di diregago mo Afrika mme ke ka fao e thušiša ka mananeo a go thekga khuso mo kontinenteng. Molaodimogolo wa SA Army o tlaleledišišiši ka gore: "Ge baagišane ba gago ba na le tša, ba tša go utswetša, bjale ba thušiša gore ba se tšo go utswetša." Ge a feleletša o gateletše gore le ge go se na dintwa lebakeng la bjale, re swanetshe go dula re le komana madula a bapile. "Le a amogelwa lena bogenerale le sa tšwago go thwalwa, ke mošomo o boina kua pele. Boledišang gore le šome mmogo." Ka morago ga moletlo bogenerale ba bile le nako ya go tše-bana gabotse le go gwerana, seo se ba thušiša go itokišetša mošomo wo mogolo woo o ba emetšego.

* The English version of this article is available at the top of this page. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.
Captains of Industry dining together

Article and photo by Lt Col Ben van Zijl, SO1 Reserve Force at the Reserve Force Division Regional Office for Gauteng

"In meeting the defence obligations of the future you, the Captains of Industry, have a valuable role to play." This was the message from the SANDF to captains of industry and Reserve Force employers at a formal dinner hosted at the Paratus Mess, SA Army College, in Thaba Tshwane on 5 May this year. The dinner was attended by some of the most influential businessmen and employers in the country together with the senior cadre representing the Defence Force and the Secretary for Defence, as well as Officers Commanding Reserve Force units in Gauteng.

Lt Gen S.Z. Binda, the Chief of Joint Operations, who was the main speaker at the event, urged employers of Reserve Force members to allow their employees to do Reserve Force service. In a candid speech, also published on the Reserve Force website www.rfdiv.wil.za, Lt Gen Binda informed prominent South African businessmen of the issues relevant to the military. He spoke about South Africa’s foreign policy initiatives in Africa and the role of the SANDF in it, transformational issues facing the Defence Force, the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU) peace missions and the role Reserve Force soldiers have been playing, the strategic defence equipment, the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of SA (ASGI-SA) and the Service Corps.

Captains of Industry dining together in the Paratus Mess, SA Army College, in Thaba Tshwane during a formal dinner hosted by the SANDF.

Denel shatters artillery records

By Bastiaan Verhoek, Denel Corp Comm Land Systems

In a continuing drive to improve its acknowledged lead in tubed artillery systems, Denel managed to fire a distance of 75 kilometres last week, shattering all previous artillery records. This range improvement was achieved on 11 April 2006, with the latest G6-52L, Denel’s extended range version of its renowned G6 self-propelled artillery system. It fired V-LAP projectiles which use both base-bleed and rocket-assisted technology to extend the range. The ammunition was conditioned at 50 degrees C as part of a safety qualification for an upcoming manned user trial. The gun fired at an elevation of 1000 metres above sea level at the Alkantpan firing range near Prieska in the Northern Cape Province. What makes this achievement the more remarkable is the excellent consistency achieved, with a probable error of only 0.38% of the range fired. "We’ll be able to improve further on this accuracy in future by applying range correcting fuze technology on which Denel has started to work," explained Mr Bastiaan Verhoek, Executive Manager at DLS Lyttelton, a Denel company in Pretoria. Artillery systems in many parts of the world, such as within NATO, are specified to fire shorter ranges, mainly in the interests of standardisation. "For these requirements we do supply guns and ammunition systems too, but because we use the same design technologies, Denel can do so much more confidently and with greater margins of safety," he added. "With these latest firing trials, Denel has shown that it remains the world leader in the development of long-range artillery ballistic systems," Mr Verhoek concluded.

Denel’s latest G6-52L.
Located a little more than 10 degrees below the equator in the western Indian Ocean, the different islands of the Comoros, namely Nzwani (Anjouan), Mwali (Moheli) and the Ngazidja (Grande Comoros) have a maritime tropical climate.

SA Soldier got the opportunity to go there and provide media coverage for the presidential elections in the Union of the Comoros from 11 to 19 May 2006 as part of Operation TRITON 4. The elections are held every four years, with the office rotating between the three islands.

On 11 October 2005 the Government of the Union of the Comoros requested the African Union (AU) to monitor the elections in their country. In response to this request the AU established an AU Mission to Support the Elections in the Comoros (AMISEC). This mission was composed of military and civilian officers.

The duties of AMISEC were exclusively international and its personnel carried out their duties and conducted themselves in a way to promote the interests of AMISEC. The mandate of AMISEC included the following:

- To create a secure environment for the holding of free and fair and transparent elections in the Comoros.
- To monitor, observe and report on the situation on the islands to the Chairperson of the Commission.
- To ensure that during the electoral process the Comorian security forces, i.e. the Union of the Comoros’ security forces and those of the autonomous islands and their equipments were confined to barracks. However, the

By Lebohang Letaoana
Photos: Sgt Lebogang Thaole

Pte Vuyo Ndaba from 9 SAI Bn briefing Ambassador Carter Seleka about the progress of the elections.
local police dealt with routine law enforcement not related to the electoral process, without weapons. Control mechanisms were established to monitor such police activities.

South Africa as the leading nation under the authority and control of the African Union sent a considerable number of soldiers on this mission. Lt Col Oscar Viljoen, the Chief of Staff, said the SANDF had 460 soldiers deployed on the three islands and an additional 675 were deployed for five days to secure the elections. The idea was to deploy soldiers at every polling station, of which there were about 550.

On 12 May 2006 a large part of the contingent began arriving. They were immediately briefed by Col George Sibanyoni, the Contingent Commander AMISEC, about their tasks. He urged the soldiers to execute their tasks in a professional manner and not to forget that their mission here was to secure the elections. Other nations that took part were Egypt, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Madagascar and Mauritius. The bulk of these forces were based in Moroni at the old international airport.

The forces’ main objective was to create a secure environment for the holding of free, fair and transparent elections in the Comoros and they were deployed in Anjouan, Moheli and Grande Comoros. SA Soldier travelled to Anjouan with the C130 Hercules crew and spoke to the local people about the upcoming elections. “I hope these elections will bring change to our country. They (elections) will give our people hope, especially because of the presence of the soldiers who are very friendly. We get along very well with them,” said Abdou Wihamaune, a shop owner in Anjouan. Capt Herald Engelbrecht, Signal Officer from 2 Field Engineer Regiment, said his task gave support by means of radio communication. He was working with a team of five personnel (covering the whole island), and they made sure that communication channels were clear and accessible.

On Sunday 14 May 2006 Comorans from across the three islands descended on the polls to cast their votes. The elections were contested by the following three individuals: Ahmed Abdullah Sambi who was favoured to be the next president of Anjouan: Soldiers chatting to the local people about the elections in the Comoros.

(Continued on page 16)
Interview with the “Teacher”

Amina Ali Amadi (28), who the soldiers call “teacher” because of her general knowledge, is a humble and down-to-earth person. SA Soldier spoke to her briefly where she was busying herself with the voters’ roll. Three years ago she came to Johannesburg to study English at Barnato Park High School and later at Pinnacle Business College. Asked why she came back to the Comoros, she said: “I had to come back because of financial matters. You see here there are no job opportunities, and people are making a living by selling fish and groceries. Most of my friends and family members are in France. They are the ones who are able to send us money to survive”. As we were busy chatting, some of the observers started to get irritated and asked me to produce some form of identity. I showed them my press card and they mumbled something in French and let me continue talking with Amina. Only French and Arabic are spoken in the Comoros, but Amina is fluent in English as well. “People are very friendly and kind,” said Amina, trying to make me feel comfortable. She said one day she hopes to come back to South Africa to pursue her studies and maybe, who knows, to settle down there.

* Additional info: www.ksu.edu/sasw/comoros

An officer in control

By Lebohang Letaoana

The Oxford dictionary describes an officer as a person holding a position of authority or trust, especially one with a commission in the armed services. That is the description you could give Lt John Mathese.

On Sunday, 14 May 2006, the day of the elections in the Union of the Comoros, Lt Mathese offered to travel with the SA Soldier team to visit the polling stations around Grande Comoros. “Our primary task is to secure the elections. We also do security patrols around the area,” said Lt Mathese.

As a Task Force Commander he has to make sure that all his soldiers perform their duties professionally. “I have 41 soldiers under my command, and because of their discipline and dedication they are making my job quite easy,” he said.

Asked about the challenges he faced as a leader, he answered: “The biggest challenge we faced when we first came here was the language barrier. It was very difficult to communicate and get information”.

When I later spoke to Lt Col Oscar Viljoen, the Chief of Staff, he also agreed that the language barrier was a problem. “We had to employ local people to interpret for us because it was becoming a problem for us to execute our tasks,” said Lt Col Viljoen.

Lt Mathese joined the South African National Defence Force in 1999. He did his Basic Military Training at 3 SA Infantry Battalion in Kimberley. Then he did his corps training at 44 Parachute Regiment in Bloemfontein. Since joining the organisation Lt Mathese has participated in Exercise DRAGON, which was held in Grahamstown. He was also deployed to Lesotho for Operation MALUTI.

In 2002 he became an officer. “I like the responsibility that comes with the package. I was born to be a leader,” Lt Mathese said. Most of his soldiers were Military Skills Development (MSD) members, for some of whom it was the first time they were deployed. I asked him if any of these MSD members could handle the pressure, to which he replied confidently: “They may look young, but they are trained by highly qualified instructors. They can tackle any situation that may arise”.

In his spare time Lt Mathese enjoys listening to music (funk and hip hop) and relaxing with friends. “I strive for excellence; that is why my motto is: ‘Hard work never killed anyone’,” concluded Lt Mathese.

(SA SOLDIER • JULY 2006

An officer in control

By Lebohang Letaoana

The Oxford dictionary describes an officer as a person holding a position of authority or trust, especially one with a commission in the armed services. That is the description you could give Lt John Mathese.

On Sunday, 14 May 2006, the day of the elections in the Union of the Comoros, Lt Mathese offered to travel with the SA Soldier team to visit the polling stations around Grande Comoros. “Our primary task is to secure the elections. We also do security patrols around the area,” said Lt Mathese.

As a Task Force Commander he has to make sure that all his soldiers perform their duties professionally. “I have 41 soldiers under my command, and because of their discipline and dedication they are making my job quite easy,” he said.

Asked about the challenges he faced as a leader, he answered: “The biggest challenge we faced when we first came here was the language barrier. It was very difficult to communicate and get information”.

When I later spoke to Lt Col Oscar Viljoen, the Chief of Staff, he also agreed that the language barrier was a problem. “We had to employ local people to interpret for us because it was becoming a problem for us to execute our tasks,” said Lt Col Viljoen.

Lt Mathese joined the South African National Defence Force in 1999. He did his Basic Military Training at 3 SA Infantry Battalion in Kimberley. Then he did his corps training at 44 Parachute Regiment in Bloemfontein. Since joining the organisation Lt Mathese has participated in Exercise DRAGON, which was held in Grahamstown. He was also deployed to Lesotho for Operation MALUTI.

In 2002 he became an officer. “I like the responsibility that comes with the package. I was born to be a leader,” Lt Mathese said. Most of his soldiers were Military Skills Development (MSD) members, for some of whom it was the first time they were deployed. I asked him if any of these MSD members could handle the pressure, to which he replied confidently: “They may look young, but they are trained by highly qualified instructors. They can tackle any situation that may arise”.

In his spare time Lt Mathese enjoys listening to music (funk and hip hop) and relaxing with friends. “I strive for excellence; that is why my motto is: ‘Hard work never killed anyone’,” concluded Lt Mathese.
Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, the Chief of the SA Air Force, assured the people of South Africa that in spite of all the challenges and constraints the SA Air Force is facing, the latter is more committed than ever to serving them. He was speaking at a media briefing held at Air Force Base Waterkloof on 30 May 2006.

On deployments
The SA Air Force is involved in peace support operations under the auspices of the South African Development Community (SADC), the African Union (AU) and the United Nations (UN) in support of Government diplomatic initiatives to foster peace and stability in the region and on the African continent.

"We are particularly proud of our reaction times and excellent sortie rates which we could generate with our C 47 and BK 117s in the Comoros. Our two Oryx helicopters have temporarily returned from Burundi, but we hope to be redeployed soon," said Lt Gen Gagiano.

On current state of our Air Force

Impalas which have been in service in the SA Air Force for forty years. The Hawk aircraft will prepare the new generation of fighter pilots for the Gripen fighter jet.

"The Government initiative to acquire the A400M, a strategic airlift capability, is truly a lifeline for the SA Air Force and will, together with the future decision on the transport aircraft mix, rejuvenate the transport capacity of the SA Air Force," said the Chief of the SA Air Force.

On transformation
Over the past two years 72 pilots and navigators have been trained by the SA Air Force. Of these 45 are black and 27 white. "We can, however, never lower our guard as these people are highly regarded and sought after by private aviation. We have to ensure that our personnel management practices are of the highest level," said Lt Gen Gagiano.

On challenges
One major challenge facing the SA Air Force is finding the best strategic balance between what can be afforded in terms of the operating budget and what the nation needs. In view of this, the Air Force has adopted certain measures. These include, among others: streamlining logistic support, optimising personnel structures to sustainable levels, and selectively reducing the footprint of the SA Air Force, particularly at remote bases, such as Air Force Base Hoedspruit and Air Force Base Makhado.

"It is important to know that without enough and adequately skilled personnel and suitably advanced equipment, my vision to have a tactical Air Force that is able and willing to deploy to any place on the continent and beyond in support of Government diplomatic initiatives, cannot be realised," concluded Lt Gen Gagiano.

On acquisition
On 19 October 2005 the SA Air Force acquired six of the 30 Agusta A109 helicopters, which were delivered to 87 Helicopter Flying School, inter alia to provide training for pilots and technicians. This aircraft will also be used extensively in operations in the light utility helicopter role.

On 24 May 2006 the Air Force accepted the first two of 24 Hawk Mk120 aircraft at Air Force Base Makhado. They will replace the
Protect all whistle-blowers

By Lebohang Letaoana
Photo: Sgt Lebogang Tlhaole

The Secretary for Defence, Mr January Masilela, officially opened the first Fraud Prevention Workshop, which was held in Nelspruit in Mpumalanga over the period 22 to 26 May 2006.

The workshop was hosted by the Inspector General of the DOD, Maj Gen Mxolisi Petane, and its mandate was to establish an effective fraud prevention plan to protect the assets and resources of the Department of Defence.

The Inspector General of the DOD said this workshop was an indication that the Department was trying by every means to clamp down on fraud and corruption in the organisation. "I appeal to the grassroots level that it inform us as the leadership about any wrongdoing, because the vast majority of these crimes are happening there," said Maj Gen Petane.

According to Capt (SAN) Emily Masanabo from the Directorate Anti-Corruption and Anti-Fraud (DACAF) corruption and fraud can be committed by any member within the DOD, either alone or in collusion with outsiders.

The Secretary for Defence said corruption and fraud were serious problems in this country and not only in the organisation. "It comes in all sorts of forms, such as abuse of State resources, maladministration, etc. This is a serious offence because it undermines our public system. It is robbing our future generation of money that could be used to improve the quality of our children’s education,” he said.

Units and formations in the Mpumalanga area were invited to participate in the workshop and give inputs for the formulation of an effective and robust fraud prevention plan. Capt (SAN) Masanabo said the main objectives of the DACAF were to increase awareness among DOD members of corruption and fraud. In her presentation she highlighted some of the general warning signs such as: working alone, inadequate and ineffective internal controls, domination of business decisions by an individual or a small group, failing to comply with the procurement policy, and living beyond means.

She also gave examples of corruption and fraud that were being committed within the DOD:
- Using State resources for personal gain.
- Abuse of electronic communication.
- Supplying inferior goods or services.
- Falsifying kilometres on vehicles.
- Submission of false qualifications.
- Favouritism during staffing placement processes.
- Falsifying S&T documents.

The DACAF is committed to a high quality of service delivery to its clients, and is therefore committed to investigating complaints (whistle blowing) received by it as efficiently and effectively as possible and practicable. The DACAF will endeavour to ensure that all complaints are dealt with fairly, objectively and confidentially.

Capt (SAN) Masanabo urged the members of the organisation to consult the DACAF if they had any enquiries or to report any crime. Asked what protection members have as whistleblowers he mentioned the Protected Disclosure Act (Act 26 of 2000) which provides protection for employees, who make a disclosure, against any form of occupational discrimination.

The DOD therefore undertakes to protect all whistle-blowers’ identities. Under no circumstances will the identity of the whistle-blower be revealed to any other person(s) or organisation without the whistle-blower’s consent.

Contact details of facilities for whistle-blowing

Fraud hotline: 0800 767 323
Telephone: (012) 312 4859
Fax: (012) 312 4999
Email: sosdaf@tiscali.co.za
Postal address: Defence Inspectorate (DOD), Directorate Anti-Corruption and Anti-Fraud, Private Bag X671, Pretoria, 0001.
Female Admiral does the Department proud

By LS Jackie Pietbooi, SA Navy PR
Photo: WO1 G.J. Moodley

An awards ceremony was held to present the winners with the most outstanding women in the public sector, and state owned enterprises awards. This ceremony was organised by the International Quality & Productivity Centre (IQPC) and held at the Indaba Hotel in Johannesburg on 9 May 2006.

There were nine winners chosen among 150 nominations, which were received this year, which was three times the number of last year’s nominees. SA Navy’s R Adm (JG) K. Litchfield-Tshabalala, Director Fleet Human Resources, was one of the women to win the Best Mentorship Contribution Award. This award is presented to “a woman who has made a significant contribution in her organisation to mentoring and coaching other women into management positions. This woman invests in the future of women and her organisation in a dedicated and exceptional way”.

Not only does R Adm (JG) Litchfield-Tshabalala assist women in the SA Navy with empowerment and personal development, but she has also founded and runs gender awareness and sensitisation workshops. Furthermore, she is passionate about issues relating to drug abuse, HIV and AIDS, as well as morality and ethics. She addresses all these issues within workshops she runs in the Fleet and at the Waterfall Junior Ratings residence. This includes Saturdays (despite having a four year old daughter).

When asked how she felt upon receiving the award, R Adm Litchfield-Tshabalala replied: “I am very grateful to all the people in the SA Navy that nominated me for the award and I would like to say thank you to IQPC for presenting me with the award. I do not only mentor women in the Navy, but everyone. I would not actually call it mentoring, but empowering because empowering people and sharing my knowledge with others is what gives me strength, joy and peace. When I assist people with career development and co-ordinate woman’s conferences I do not do it for an award, I do it because I love empowering others. It would be an injustice for me not to dedicate this award to my team, with whom I run the empowerment workshops: Cdr Ralph Warrin, Lt Mathlodi Deane, LS Kevin Jullies, AB Lester Vermeulen and Mid Kedibone Tau. I do what I do, because for me it is a God given call. God puts you in a position, not for yourself, but for other people.”

Other award categories

The Most Outstanding Woman Manager in the Public Sector in Top Management went to Dr Mala Singh, Deputy National Commissioner: Human Resources Management and Legal Services in the South African Police Service.

The Most Outstanding Woman Manager in the Public Sector in Middle Management went to Johanna Snyman, Deputy Director: Monitoring and Evaluation in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment.

The Most Outstanding Woman Manager in a State Owned Enterprise in Top Management was awarded to Transnet Group Chief Executive, Maria Ramos.

The Most Outstanding Women Manager in a State Owned Enterprise for Middle Management was awarded to Petro SA, Asset Manager, Portia Manual.

The Best Delivery Award was presented to Coronation Hospital’s Chief Executive Officer, Susan Jordaan.

The Most Effective Communicator Award was presented to SABC3 Talk host, Noeleen Maholwana-Sangqu.

The Community Service Award went to Somikazi Chabalala, Subject Advisor from the Gauteng Department of Education.

The Work-Home Balance Award was won by Thina Moselane, a Planning and Development Manager in the Central District Municipality.
events

Proud to be women in the SANDF

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photos: Cpl René Naicker

Chaplain Nomatamsana Nomathumanya from DOD Logistic Support Formation, when blessing the very first National Conference of Women in Defence held in Kempton Park from 24 to 26 May 2006, could not have said it better when she described the gathering as an opportunity for women to tell those in powerful positions what it was that they wanted. “Let our horn be lifted up here!” Chaplain Nomathumanya prayed and prophesied: “To new beginnings, new hopes and new posts.”

Never has the Defence sector hosted a women’s conference of this magnitude. All the people who participated witnessed history in the making. The theme of the conference was “The status of women in the transformation of the security sector in South Africa.”

The Minister of Defence and his Deputy graced the occasion; the Chiefs from all the different Services were there, and so were numerous generals, admirals, officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, distinguished guests and members of the Military Skills Development (MSD) System.

Officially declaring the conference open, the Secretary for Defence, Mr January Masilela, said the occasion could not have come at a better time because the conference not only represented a time for serious dialogue, but a moment to celebrate. He also stated that it was easy to measure an organisation that was advancing because all one needed to do was to look at the status of women within that particular organisation.

“This year South Africa is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Women’s March to the Union Buildings. This bold and objective move against the violation of basic human rights was, with hindsight, only the beginning and a small indication of what was to come.”

“As the Secretary for Defence I am responsible for policy compliance and the achievement of gender equality in the Department of Defence (DOD). Therefore my office initiated the Gender Mainstreaming Project to facilitate compliance of the DOD with Government policy. The Gender Mainstreaming Project will eventually provide an integrated holistic framework for the implementation of gender mainstreaming as a strategy for accelerating the pace of gender transformation in the DOD,” he said.

“There has been significant but slow progress in regard to gender mainstreaming,” Mr Masilela added, and continued: “One of the main weaknesses was the absence of clear goals underpinning gender transformation in the Department. This included employment equity goals as envisaged in the Employment Equity Act. Until now the pursuit of gender equality has not been factored into decisions, policy issues and a strategic framework to eliminate gender discrimination and promote gender equality.”

Mr Masilela assured his audience that every challenge would receive attention and every gap would be closed. In conclusion he emphasised that the primary responsibility for gender mainstreaming rests with the leadership. He said: “It remains the duty of all managers to mainstream gender in all their decisions and to ensure that all persons falling under their authority do the same.”

Having laid the foundation and set
the pace at which the conference could proceed, all the participants went to a drumming session! The composition of a common beat to which all those participating in the conference would move to and work by was an essential component and a guarantor of productivity. The establishment of a rhythm that would carry and sustain the gathering right to its successful ending was a necessity! And so with the help of "Paul" from the Drum Café everybody present was provided with a Jembe Drum so that by beating on the drums individual hands would contribute to the making of a prevailing vibe of fun and working together.

Tapping into the high morale and insuring its continuity the Minister of Defence, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, in his address said it was possible for women to lead. "If we are going to do transformation in this Department, in Correctional Services, in the South African Police Service and so on, some measure of collaboration is crucial," Mr Lekota stated.

"And of course a department that should be involved more and more is the Department of Education; the reasons for this have to do with our society. In order to deal with this problem the departments need to deal with the broader level of society so that we impact on the social attitudes which are cultivated and maintained by custom and traditions," the Minister added.

"The issue that we have to deal with now is first and foremost the mental orientation of men and women." Mr Lekota emphasised that the year 2006 was a very important year in celebrating women, especially those who came before. "We must adopt the attitude that the submarines in South Africa begins to receive this year must be named after heroines to celebrate women, and we must identify some representation of this in nature." The first of these submarines has since been named after "MANTHATISI" - a woman who distinguished herself at a time when there was no question of gender equality. He continued: "She led her people against all the kings who were there, she led on the battlefield, and we thought we could take an example like that and say it was possible."

Minister Lekota said: "The challenge facing us at a higher level is to ensure that women are in practical terms represented in significant numbers in all decision-making structures and processes." According to the Minister, gender representation in the SANDF as a whole currently stands at 78% male and 22% female. "At top management levels that is a deputy director general and three star generals. The total number of incumbents is seventeen, of whom two are women, one black and one white." He added: "At senior management level there are chief directors, major generals and brigadier generals. The gender representation here is 90% male and 10% female."

"The status of women in the DOD is at the present time unacceptable and does not meet Government prescripts," Mr Lekota added. "Now that we have the policy, can this meeting here concentrate on producing some recommendations as to how in practical terms we can produce the result we have decided should be achieved? It is the how part that I hope this meeting will deal with."

The other question should be: "How do we measure up to international standards and how do we get to where the United Nations and the African Union are saying we should be getting to?" Minister Lekota added: "White women have been victims of gender discrimination as well and so it is crucial that we maintain a balance."

In ending his address he said that when dealing gender discrepancies people should not just take into account the race of the woman, but also ask whether the woman in question had the necessary training and acumen to make a success of the posting. (Continued on page 22)
We are talking about the urgency of things, but that urgency must always be linked to efficiency and the capacity to be able to serve people and advance the cause," he said.

Picking up on the theme was Dr Brigalia Bam, the President of South African Women in Dialogue (SAWID) and Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), and who saluted all women in uniform. She said: "There is something new about us feeling proud of you. The very presence of you here makes me as a South African absolutely proud and you have enhanced in many of us the patriotism that we need."

She continued: "Your particular sector brings to our society the discipline, respect for seniority and authority, its values of precision and a work ethic and the value of honour. The more mothers can be part of this sector they will not only be peacemakers, but will also retain those things that are important in any society."

Dr Bam noted and commented on the "wonderful" co-operation that existed between the SANDF and the IEC, a relationship that was heightened in 1998. She also mentioned that women constituted the voting block in South Africa. "Rain or no rain, it shows that we are people who think, who care and are committed to this nation," she said.

"In Parliament we are beginning to internalise new concepts of equity. What is this equity? What is this impartiality? We are beginning to understand what affirmative action means and this is part of transformation. This is actually an opportunity for women to be part of this history. It is an opportunity and a privilege, though it is difficult and there is resistance," said Dr Bam.

"When we talk of gender equity it is beyond the numbers; it is also those things that are valuable in any nation," she pointed out. Dr Bam stated that Parliament consisted of 30% women and that South Africa had more women cabinet ministers than any other country over the last ten years.

"This is a fantastic time for us because we are associated with femininity and the preservation and nurturing of life, things that are God-given. How do we then bring those things that were given to us through creation, and give a humane face to society?" Dr Bam asked. She suggested that it was not only the men who had to change, but the women too. "To those who have made it, the greatest responsibility is how do we become models to the young South African?"

There was much food for thought as all the speakers had important points to make. Some of the guest speakers included Prof L. Heinecken from the University of Stellenbosh, Dr M. Juma, Senior Researcher: Safer Africa, Ms Sandy Africa, DDG: NIA and Commissioner J.C. Basson from the SAPS.

In concluding the conference the Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Mluleki George, emphasised the need to have women participating and functioning in key Defence roles. "The need to address gender in security is the key because the status of women is a good indicator of the level of transformation and development in any society," he said.

"It is clear that we still need to do more to advance gender representivity in the Department. The low levels of women represented in decision-making structures must be remedied." Mr George added: "It is my hope that under the leadership of the Equal Opportunities Chief Directorate we will achieve the task outlined. It is a hope, but at the same time it is an order."

"We wanted to raise awareness about the importance of involving women at all levels of decision-making, and secondly we wanted to come up with strategies as to how to correct the current gender imbalances within the DOD and set realistic targets," said Maj Gen Ntsiki Motumi, the Chief Director of Equal Opportunities, to SA Soldier.

Maj Gen Motumi stated that for the conference to remain a resounding success, it was of the utmost importance that the entire leadership of the SANDF participate in the conference. "They are the decision-makers in this organisation and if they are not there then the conference will end up being just a 'talk-shop'. They must be there to understand what it is that we want to do and then support us." She added: "Their presence showed recommitment to the constitutional imperatives and that they would do their best to ensure that we advanced in the DOD."

She continued: "For me what is important is that the Government has declared this as the Age of Hope and the women are marching."

"As the DOD it is imperative for us to clearly demonstrate our alignment with national issues; that we are part and parcel of the South African community." The National Conference of Women in Defence was well represented from Military Skills Development (MSD) level right up to women generals. "As the convenor of the conference I had the opportunity to walk around during the various commissions while they were in discussion and people were participating and they were not hindered. What I got from the conference was that people wanted to talk and appreciated the opportunity," she said.

"We should really go forward with this process and I have developed a comprehensive plan of action that clearly targets what is going to happen and when," she said, adding: "We are currently engaged in the restructuring of the organisation," she said referring to some of the challenges that should be considered when mandates were set. Maj Gen Motumi also stressed the importance of knowing and having professional details in the form of data that had been captured, detailing to the last degree the competence of each individual to be considered for placement. So that in future when we say women, we should also be able to say who we are talking about in terms of musteringings, qualifications, military qualifications and so forth."

Maj Gen Motumi’s DOD’s 2006/7 Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan was presented to the Defence Staff Council (DSC) on 5 June 2006 and will be published in the August 2006 edition of SA Soldier.
The Chief of the Service Corps, Maj Gen Mofei Kenneth Mokoena, held discussions with delegates from the Mozambican Defence Force at the Centre for Advanced Training at Atteridgeville in Pretoria on 1 June 2006.

The purpose of this visit was to assist the Mozambican Defence Force to establish and assemble a skills development capability, similar to the Service Corps Centre for Advanced Training (CAT).

As a result of the bilateral agreement between the governments of both countries, the SANDF is constantly exploring areas of co-operation between the two defence forces. It is in this spirit that the Service Corps, a training establishment, is charged with the responsibility to equip exiting soldiers with portable skills for re-entry into civil society.

Maj Gen Mokoena said he was quite aware of the broad requirement that the Mozambican delegates had identified. One of the main requirements was to train members of the Mozambican Defence Force to be training instructors. The Mozambican Defence Force will send its members to be equipped at the Centre for Advanced Training (CAT). They will be trained in construction, agriculture and electricity. Other assistance may include the donation of redundant equipment.

During the discussions Col (Ret) Joaquim Zacarias Mataruca, National Director for Human Resources and Head of the Committee charged with setting up the Civic Service, wanted to know how CAT managed to sustain and maintain its property. “There is massive financial involvement. In terms of maintenance we are supported by the Government,” said Maj Gen Mokoena. He urged the delegates to seek partnerships outside government. “Partnerships are very important to us,” he said, referring to the accommodation that was donated by the Germans and Taiwanese.

Col Mataruca said such a mission will help them to combat poverty in Mozambique. Maj Gen Mokoena promised to engage further with the Mozambican Defence Force so that their mission can be realised. “This is still a dream, but if we work together, we will succeed,” he said. Before concluding the talks, the group paid a courtesy call on the Chief of Human Resources, Lt Gen Temba Matanzima, at Defence Headquarters to be briefed on the current state of human resources in the Department of Defence.

The delegates ended their tour by visiting 17 Shaft Training Centre in Johannesburg on 2 June 2006.

From left: Maj Gen Mofei Kenneth Mokoena, the Chief of the Service Corps (RSA), Maj (Ret) João Pires Nicolau, Head Strategic Planning Department in the National Directorate for Defence Policy (Mozambique), Mr Justino Tonela, Legal Advisor in the Ministry of Defence (Mozambique), Lt Gen Temba Matanzima, the Chief of Human Resources (RSA), Col (Ret) Joaquim Zacarias Mataruca, National Director for Human Resources and Head of the Committee charged with setting up the Civic Service (Mozambique), Col Albino Pedro Mussa, Deputy Speaker of the Committee charged with setting up the Civic Service (Mozambique), and Capt (Ret) Calisto Miguel Mateus Mangave, Head of the Training Department (Mozambique).
The long awaited arrival of Air Force of Zimbabwe (AFZ) flying instructors and technical staff finally occurred on 18 February 2006. In all, twelve members joined up with their new-found colleagues at Central Flying School (CFS) under the leadership of Group Captain (Colonel) Anthony Viyano, a Cessna 337 pilot and instructor. With him were pilot instructors Wing Commander (Lt Col) George Ngundu and Squadron Leaders (Maj) Gilbert Sibanda, Ezwini Masuku, Maxwell Sakupwana and Vuyo Ncube. The technical staff are headed up by Squadron Leader Simba Mhuru supported by WO1s Lawrence Mlopo and Elvis Kumadiro, and MT (Master Technician, who is also a WO1, but a technical specialist by trade) Peter Mhlanga, Marshall Masanga and Antony Takawira.

These members were invited to join the staff at the CFS as part of a wider plan to incorporate SADC member countries’ aircrew into our Air Force. In this manner we hope to be able to benchmark and learn from each other in flying instructional matters, as well as general aviation.

Presently the flying instructors are doing their Astra conversion which should be completed by the end of May, whereafter they will give ab initio instruction and instructor training to qualified pilots on the Instructors Course.

There were smiles in abundance after they had completed their first solo flight on the Astra. They were impressed with the aircraft, especially the available power.

Since then, and having completed the technical phase, the AFZ instructors have settled in well and are enjoying the flying and are making new friends easily, the bonds of aviation allowing for easy and relaxed conversation in crew rooms and professional respect in briefing cubicles. No doubt greater bonds still will be formed once our AFZ friends are fully integrated into the various flights. The instructors also welcomed the opportunity to sound each other out about the methodology of instruction used in both air forces, as well as approaches to life in general. In both cases many commonalities were found.

While the flying instructors were flying, their technical staff were converting onto the Astra by completing the technical course. They too were impressed with the Astra’s reliability and advanced technical attributes. Their conversion was considerably quicker than that of the pilots and they soon found themselves “mending” what the “benders” had “bent”. Pilots are light-heartedly referred to as “benders”, while technicians are referred to as “menders”.

The AFZ crew came alone, but hopefully it will not be too long before their families join them. From all the staff at CFS we give our new friends a hearty welcome and furthermore hope that they enjoy their tour of duty here on the West Coast. They have been warned that if the West Coast bug bites, their three-year tour might not be long enough for them.
The two British made Hawk MK120 lead-in-fighter trainer aircraft descended to a warm and jubilant welcome by members of the SA Air Force at 85 Combat Flying School, AFB Makhado, in Limpopo Province on 24 May 2006. His wife, Maria Pia, and two staff officers accompanied him.

Owing to urgent matters requiring the presence of Lt Gen Tricarico in Italy, the visit was cut short and was limited to the northern part of the country.

The Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, and Mrs Leonie Gagiano accompanied the visitors to AFB Hoedspruit and AFB Makhado.

Lt Gen Tricarico visited Zonderwater and laid a wreath at the Italian Military Cemetery, in commemoration of Italian prisoners of war who died there during World War II.

The Chief of Staff of the Italian Air Force, Lt Gen Leonardo Tricarico, paid a goodwill visit to the SA Air Force over the period 21 to 23 May 2006. His wife, Maria Pia, and two staff officers accompanied him.

Owing to urgent matters requiring the presence of Lt Gen Tricarico in Italy, the visit was cut short and was limited to the northern part of the country.

The Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, and Mrs Leonie Gagiano accompanied the visitors to AFB Hoedspruit and AFB Makhado.

Lt Gen Tricarico visited Zonderwater and laid a wreath at the Italian Military Cemetery, in commemoration of Italian prisoners of war who died there during World War II.

The Chief of Staff of the Italian Air Force and his delegation commented positively on the professionalism with which the SA Air Force was meeting present day challenges, both internally and in its growing commitment in support of Government initiatives on the African continent.

Lt Gen Gagiano and Lt Gen Tricarico discussed numerous areas of possible co-operation between the two air forces, including training, sharing of knowledge and experience and the exchange of personnel.

The Hawk lead-in-fighter trainer was procured under the Strategic Defence Package as the replacement for the ageing SA Air Force Impala fighter trainer which entered SA Air Force service forty years ago.

The Chief of Staff of the Italian Air Force, Lt Gen Leonardo Tricarico, paid a goodwill visit to the SA Air Force over the period 21 to 23 May 2006. His wife, Maria Pia, and two staff officers accompanied him.
A group of hearing impaired non-uniformed members attended the opening of the first empowerment course, namely "Working in a Team", at the Poynton’s Building in Pretoria on 1 June 2006.

The course was organised by the Directorate Career Development (Public Service Act Personnel) and the Disability Equity Section.

"Communication is one the most important components in the working environment and thus also in the DOD. We realise that hearing impaired employees experience various communication related challenges in the working environment. It is imperative that we must attempt to address these challenges and make an effort to eliminate these communication barriers in the near future," said Ms Adèle Snyman, Assistant Director Disability Equity (EOCD).

This was the first course in the DOD that to be presented to the Afrikaans speaking hearing impaired employees and one of the first attempts to address these challenges and communication barriers.

"A computer course and a sign language course are also going to be presented to these members within the near future. This is just the beginning," said Ms Snyman. If we had more people who were so committed to the plight of people with disabilities, we would be able to eliminate all barriers and challenges within the DOD very easily and equity would prevail.

"I want to extend a special word of welcome to our hearing impaired students. I wish to salute you, because you were willing to take the first step to empower yourselves. I also want to motivate you to grab every opportunity that comes your way and to make the best of it," said Ms Snyman.

Back, fltr: Ms Adèle Snyman, Assistant Director Disability Equity, Ms Madie Heyns, Assistant Director Education Training and Development for PSAP, and Ms Karen Swart, Senior Personnel Practitioner at Directorate Career Development for PSAP with the participants in the "Working in a Team" Course.
The star behind marketing the Reserve Force successfully

By Col A.R. Lentsoe, SSO Promotions (Reserve Force)
Photo: Annelie Rosslee

The Promotions Directorate is engaged with the task of marketing and promoting the Reserve Force system among identified clients and target groups.

A number of activities have been spelt out in the implementation instruction for Project SHIELD, which guides the approach to promoting and marketing. These will be highlighted as part of Mrs Jennifer Render’s success story in her role as the National Promotions Co-ordinator (Reserve Force).

Project SHIELD is the vehicle used for promoting and marketing the Reserve Force system in order to gain support from employers for the idea of allowing their employees time off for military service. It also takes the message of what Reserve Force service is to the broader community.

Owing to a lack of resources and the Directorate being understaffed, Mrs Render also fills the role of photographer and she is the author of various articles for both Reserve Force Volunteer and SA SOLDIER, over and above her editorial and daily work responsibilities.

Employer support

Employers are an important target group as many of the Reserve Force leader group are also in full-time civilian employment. The Promotions Directorate has implemented a national database, thus showing that it recognises employer support. The responsibility for seeing through this mammoth task rests with the National Promotions Co-ordinator.

Shows and exhibitions

In performing her marketing role Mrs Render organises shows and exhibitions, as well as various functions where her unique communication and marketing skills are exploited. The Reserves are being promoted and marketed successfully in this fashion. Some events in which Mrs Render participated included the Pretoria International Show, the SA Naval Festival at Simon’s Town and the Polokwane Show.

The SANDF has been awarded Gold Status at the Pretoria Show. Other shows were used to lobby for support and impart understanding of the Reserve Force system. These goals were achieved, as may be seen from the turnover at the Reserve Force stand and the number of inquiries handled.

The Reserve Force Volunteer publication

Apart from rendering secretarial services to the Council for the Support of National Defence and being the National Promotions Co-ordinator Mrs Render is also the Editor of the acclaimed publication on issues pertaining to the Reserves, “The Reserve Force Volunteer”.

Her inspiring editorial skills, hard work and dedication as the Editor of The Reserve Force Volunteer has recently placed the SANDF, and the Reserve Force Division in particular, on the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) Presidency’s acclaimed contribution books, which has earned her an invitation to the CIOR Editors Workshop in Viterbo, Italy, in July 2006.

The CIOR was founded in 1948 and today represents 1.2 million Reserve officers from 26 member countries, including those participating in the programme: “Partnership for Peace”.

Mrs Render has received many commendation certificates in her more than 20 years of dedicated service. In 2003 she graduated from Technikon SA with a Marketing Management diploma under her belt. Her inspiration led to the Reserve Force Division in 2002 and 2004 receiving the bronze and silver Communication Awards of the DOD.
Ashridge Business School (UK) and the South African Department of Defence presented a high-profile management development course for civilian employees in Pretoria over the period 2 to 12 May 2006.

The following programmes were presented:
- Train the Trainers: From 2 to 3 May 2006 a two-day programme was presented to build a joint team and prepare for the main Clipper Programme.
- Alumni Event: On 4 May 2006 a one-day event for 30 staff was held to focus on the strategic implementation of key challenges facing the Department. This was for past participants in the Clipper Programme.
- Clipper Programme: From 5 to 12 May 2006 an eight-day programme was presented for 35 civilian and four uniformed members. It focused on leadership, change and personal development.

**Train the Trainers**
The Train the Trainers Programme is designed to transfer key tutored skills to Department facilitators to enable them to deliver Clipper Programmes to a high standard in partnership with the faculty of Ashridge Business School.

**Alumni Event**
The theme for this year was "Turning Strategy into Action". Facilitated by Ashridge Business School, the event had a lively interactive mix of new thinking, live case studies, individual and group learning. A key part of this learning process was to generate and network like-minded past participants to share their ideas and maintain a common interest in improving their own performance and that of their respective

Filtr: Ms Jenny Walsh, Mr Daan de la Rey, Mr Andrew Patrick, Mr January Masilela, SA Secretary for Defence, Mr Martin Scott and Dr Mark Pegg.
Participants of the Alumni Event for 2006.

workplaces. The learning process involved the familiar highly interactive style facilitated by Ashridge and was focused on activities that added the most value, thus maximising the time together.

We were delighted to gain the support of the Secretary for Defence, Mr January Masilela, and the UK Deputy High Commissioner, Mr Andrew Patrick. Mr Masilela in his address said that he was really pleased to hear the stories from the Alumni. He stressed the importance of the development of civilian employees, who were working alongside the military. He said that Clipper was capacity building in the true sense of the word, and hoped that it would continue in the future.

Clipper Programme

The strategic goals for this programme are to develop the leadership and management skills of key managers at Deputy Director Level as part of capacity building and to enable them to improve their personal impact as leaders and managers and have their units deliver services more effectively. In general these goals continue to be achieved. The programme delivers a series of practical tools and techniques and creates a climate of positive thinking, close co-operation and networking among participants.

Faced with the question as to what their views were on the programme and what would be the most valuable thing they would take away from it, personnel attending the programme had the following to say. Mr Paul Murray, Assistant Director, SA Navy: "Skills learnt can be applied both at work and home. I rate this programme as one of the most rewarding that I attended in my 31 years of service in the Department of Defence. It provided tools to enhance my working environment. I have created a new support base of friends to assist with any future problems."

Col Sipho Mokwena, SSO Career Management and Staffing, SA Air Force: "It was a practical programme that always challenged and involved me. It was devoid of unnecessary academic jargon."

Way Forward

This programme is invaluable for the capacity building of civilian employees and is scheduled to be delivered again in 2007.

With regard to the Alumni Event it might be extended to two days to include a one-day seminar with the theme "Managing Defence in the 21st Century".

Tribute to Brig David Keenan OBE

Brigadier David Keenan has come to the end of his posting as British Defence Adviser. He was always inspiring in his efforts to improve the capacity building of civilians and to find ways of ensuring sustainability in the delivery of the programme. Brigadier we salute you!

(Article compiled by Dr Mark Pegg, Client Director Ashridge, Mr Daan de la Rey, Deputy Director PSAP ETD Policy and Doctrine, and Mr Clive Pillay, Assistant Director PSAP ETD Policy and Doctrine.)
Reserve Force gives a voluntary postal service to deployed soldiers

By Maj Johnny Botha, Executive Officer 11 Field Postal Unit

Field Postal Unit (11 FPU) is a voluntary Reserve Force unit dedicated to providing an efficient postal service to SANDF personnel, wherever they may deploy during operations or field exercises.

The function of the Army Postal Service is primarily to maintain efficient and expeditious communication between the home country and the land, sea and air forces serving in the SANDF.

A soldier's morale in combat, on exercises or in training is influenced in many ways. One way of influencing morale positively is the receiving of news and parcels from loved ones at home. It is often argued that to receive mail from your loved ones, when away from home, is better than to receive a well prepared meal. Captain Pyper, the Second-in-Command Army Postal Services in Pretoria during World War II, once said: "An army marches on its stomach - but no matter how full a soldier's stomach may be, the morale falls to zero when he does not regularly receive news from home."

The necessity of an efficient postal service for troops in the field resulted in the founding, by 11 voluntary postal workers on 1 October 1964, of 11 Field Postal Unit as a fully-fledged Citizen Force unit.

11 Field Postal Unit was the first and only Citizen Force unit of the South African Defence Force to have completed fourteen years, since 1976, of uninterrupted service in the operational area of the then South West

"An army marches on its stomach - but no matter how full a soldier's stomach may be, the morale falls to zero when he does not regularly receive news from home."
During the integration of the Non-statutory Forces in 1994 at Bloemfontein and during Operation BOLEAS in 1998 in Lesotho, 11 FPU also played a major role in supporting the SANDF.

Since the SANDF’s involvement in peacekeeping operations in Africa during the year 2000, 11 Field Postal Unit has been reactivated to deliver a field postal service to the SANDF and its deployed members. Field Post Office 3 (FPO 3) was then established at the Waterkloof Air Force Base in Pretoria to handle all mail to and from the mission areas.

FPO 3 is under the operational command of 1 Signal Regiment. Initially field postal services were rendered to the troops deployed in the mission area of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (OPS MISTRAL). Since then the SANDF has expanded its peacekeeping initiative to Kindu (OPS MONUC III), Bujumbura in Burundi (OPS ONUB) and Al Fasher in the Darfur region of the Sudan (OPS CORDITE). Direct mail dispatches were subsequently introduced between the Waterkloof Air Force Base and the various mission areas.

During the mobilisation process all SANDF members are briefed regarding the support services, which are rendered by 11 FPU. Various aspects, such as the correct postal addresses, criteria and restrictions, the sending of illegal or prohibited items to the RSA, etc are covered during the presentation. The full co-operation of all stakeholders is, therefore, extremely important in order to ensure an efficient field postal service.

During the 2004/2005 financial year approximately 22 000 mail items were sent to and 28 000 items received from the various mission areas. These had a total mass of approximately 175 000 kg. Members in the mission areas need not affix any postage stamps on the mail items as the SANDF pays for the postage. An amount of nearly R380 000 was spent on postage during the same financial year. Mail items addressed to deployed members may also be posted at FPO 3 free of charge. As can be gathered from the aforementioned the SANDF places a high premium on the morale of its members serving in the mission areas.

The activities of 11 FPU are specialised and are regulated by the Post Office Act, legislation and certain regulations. In the circumstances only South African Post Office (SAPOS) employees or ex-employees may be utilised to serve in the unit.

To be able to staff and maintain 11 FPU, the co-operation and goodwill of SAPOS are imperative. For this reason SAPOS was approached with a request to encourage its employees to enlist as voluntary Reserve Force members. SAPOS then approved the enlisting of its employees as members of 11 FPU. Special paid leave has since been granted to employees, who do not forfeit their emoluments or benefits.

Apart from this gesture SAPOS also supplies the Field Post Offices with post office specific furniture and equipment as well as stationery. This creates a perfect environment for our members to enhance the effectiveness of the field postal services.

SAPOS therefore takes the lead in acknowledging its social responsibility towards our beloved country and its inhabitants. It may be doubted whether any other employer in South Africa supports SANDF in the manner in which SAPOS does. The SANDF highly appreciates the SA Post Office’s assistance and trusts that this partnership will continue in future.

Lt Col L.M. de Villiers, the Commanding Officer of 11 FPU, expressed his sincere gratitude towards all the serving as well as ex-members of the unit for their unsselfish loyalty and dedication over the past 41 years. Without their commitment it would not have been possible to achieve the success and high esteem for which 11 FPU is known.
Developed unit standards for training

Article and photo by
Lt Col R.L.A. Steyl from DOD ETD
Policy and Doctrine

The junior officer of the future needs a sound basic knowledge of a variety of disciplines and needs to deal with a diversity of people and cultures. It is thus important that the future officer must have the ability to interpret, analyse, evaluate and synthesise and not only apply that which he or she has learnt.

When looking at the modern definition of a professional person, it is someone who is not only competent in his or her profession, ie soldering, but also someone who ascribes to the norms and values which guide professional competence. It means that to be considered as a professional the future officer will have to meet both the technical and normative dimensions of the profession. The Department of Defence has the responsibility for developing the officer of the future. Furthermore, this is best achieved during the formative years, which are widely recognised in the military as being between the time the individual joins the force as a late teenager up to the age of about 25 years.

On 19 February 2003 the former Chief of the SANDF, Gen S. Nyanda, signed a Tasking Instruction to appoint a work group that would be responsible for the revision and promulgation of an updated version of the officer formative training curriculum. Project CENTURION was originally established to review and develop an integrated and common officer formative training curriculum. The work group consists of representatives of the Services and Divisions who have an interest in officer formative training. Subject matter experts are also included to ensure credibility. The Chief of Joint Training, Maj Gen M.A. Nethinga, is the convening authority. He appointed Col F. Cillié as Chairperson with Cmdr J. van Zyl as Co-chairperson.

The guidelines for the revision of the officer formative training curriculum are as follows:

- The curriculum must be common and is to contain the competences required by all officers in the SANDF. The services will then be responsible for contextualising the presentation of the officer formative learning programme for their specific environments without changing the content of the core curriculum.
- The curriculum has to be designed to support the “One Force” policy, ie to satisfy the requirements of the Reserves, graduated professional recruits and Public Service Act Personnel (PSAP).
- The curriculum is to be aligned with Human Resource Strategy 2010 and must ensure a seamless flow from Basic Military Training to Officer Formative Training through to the Certificate in Military Studies, presented by the Military Academy.
- The curriculum has to be aligned with relevant national education, training and development (ETD) legislation. The learning programme must culminate into the achievement of credits obtained for unit standards registered on the National Qualification Framework (NQF) and ultimately credits towards a registered qualification. For this purpose a Tactical Standard Generating Body workgroup, with Cmdr J. van Zyl as Chairperson, was established.
- The profile of ETD practitioners responsible for Officer Formative Training must be clearly determined in order to guarantee set training standards. This common

Writers of the developed unit standards, back row, fltr: Lt Col L.S. van Rensburg, Cdr J.M. van Zyl, Col H.M. van Onselen, Capt T. Jacobs, Capt S. Wessels, Ms M. Reinecke, Capt P.E. Ntuli and Maj M. Pillay. Front row, fltr: Ms J. Dyzel, Maj F. Ricketts, S Sgt E. Bester, Col F.J. Cillié, S Sgt M. Rosen, Maj Z. Mala, Lt Col T. Lombard and Maj S. Herman.
curriculum forms the foundation for the Officer Formative Training in the South African National Defence Force (SANDF). However, it is not just a collection of competencies required of an officer on the modern battlefield. It is a concerted initiative by the SANDF to foster the concept of jointness at the lower tactical level of war and, indeed, within what is possibly the most important course an officer will ever complete.

The outcome of this learning programme is to equip the learners with the necessary competencies to enable them to function as effective and efficient officers within the SANDF. The importance of jointness on the modern battlefield cannot be overemphasised. No single weapon or force will ever achieve its full potential unless it is employed within the complementary capabilities of the other services.

At a forum held in Pretoria on 8 and 9 March 2003 a draft Officer Competency Profile was compiled. This profile is based on the General Areas of Competencies (GACs) required by all future young officers of the SANDF. These GACs are in turn underpinned by appropriate knowledge, skills and attitude sets. After various workshops, capacitation sessions, consultation with various Staff Councils, etc the Officer Competency Profile was finally approved by the Military Command Council on 7 February 2005. On 10 March 2005 the draft curriculum based on the Officer Competency Profile was presented to all the stakeholders and role players. Inputs were obtained and the project team was requested to:

- finalise the curriculum content,
- finalise the respective assessment plans, and
- submit the developed learning material.

The developed GACs (pilot curriculum) were also incorporated and benchmarked with the SA Navy’s 2005 Officer Formative Learning Programme at the Naval College in Gordon’s Bay. Unit standards are generated as part of a qualification. From the unit standard a learning programme is developed on which the curriculum is based. To assist with the completion of the curriculum (and to compile a credible learning programme), unit standards were harvested and others had to be developed. In July 2005 Col M. Mari, the Chairperson of the Military Professional Standard Generating Body, was requested to negotiate the possibility of financing a learning opportunity given by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) - Ms J. Dyzel.

As the Basic Military Training Work Group had the same requirement it was also included in this exercise. Workshops both to capacitate members in unit standard writing and the actual writing of appropriate unit standards were arranged over the period 24 to 25 November 2005 and 28 November to 2 December 2005. Mr B. Pachai from 3 L Academy facilitated the first workshop.

The purpose of these workshops was to develop and critique the indicated unit standards for the Military Professional Development Standards Generating Body. The following unit standards, identified by the Military Professional Development Tactical Work Group, had to be developed:

**Basic Military Training Unit Standards:**

- Describe the role of norms and values within a military and law enforcement environment.
- Demonstrate ceremonial application of drill.
- Describe the use of radio transceiver speech procedures in a military and law enforcement organisation.
- Operate a radio transceiver in a military and law enforcement environment.
- Describe service specific conventions in a military and law enforcement environment.
- Demonstrate understanding of organisational and governmental roles in relation to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.
- Orientate oneself in a military and law enforcement environment.
- Explain administrative protocol in a military and law enforcement environment.
- Apply water safety in a combat environment.
- Describe security awareness and security practices within the South African statutory environment.
- Explain human influence on the environment.

**Officer Formative Training Unit Standards:**

- Analyse the role of an officer in the SANDF.
- Practise Mission Command in the SANDF.
- Explain the concept of military combat.
- Analyse the components of military capabilities.
- Explain the global history of warfare and its development in Southern Africa.

The developed unit standards were approved by the Military Professional Development Standards Generating Body on 29 March 2006. SAQA will publish the unit standards in the Government Gazette and approve the unit standards for registration on the NQF within approximately six months.

These developed unit standards will in the near future be utilised, with the harvested unit standards, in the Basic Military and Officer Formative Short Learning Programmes.

The proposed Further Education and Training Certificate (FETC) in Military Operations (NQF Level 4, 120 credits) will be developed, utilising the above-mentioned unit standards.

Lt Col R.L.A. Stuyl and Maj Z. Maila are responsible for the co-ordination of these projects and the configuration management regarding the Officer Formative and Basic Military Training curricula. All DOD officials are requested to contact the co-ordinators if they wish to participate in this development process.

*Please contact Lt Col R.L.A. Stuyl (Officer Formative Training) at (012) 355 5295 or Maj Z. Maila (Basic Military Training) at (012) 355 5599 or fax: (012) 355 6245 or e-mail: dpd1@telkomsa.net, dpd2@telkomsa.net, dpd3@telkomsa.net, dpd4@telkomsa.net*
Cut down on official telephone costs

By Lt Col Luther Jacobs,
User System Management
Photos courtesy CMIS Division

The intervention by the CMIS Division with regard to the management and control of telephone costs in the DOD.

In January 2004 the Plenary Defence Staff Council (PDSC) instructed the Command and Management Information Systems (CMIS) Division to investigate the management of telephone costs in the DOD. The CMIS Division was tasked to provide a solution to counter the escalating telephone call cost account of the DOD. Each year telephone costs escalate by an average of 12%. The yearly increase of Telkom tariffs also plays a significant role in the huge telephone call budget of the DOD.

Maj Gen Ashwin Hurribunce, former Chief Command and Management Information Systems, tasked the CMIS Support Formation to get involved in this project. Col Francois Hough from Product Systems Management appointed a task team consisting of Lt Col Luther Jacobs and Maj Hein Phel.

The task team investigated the projects that were used in the private sector to manage telephone call costs to see if there was a product available that could be utilised in the DOD. Various solutions were analysed and in February 2004 a decision was made to implement a new Telephone Management System (TMS) for the DOD that could provide correct information in order to manage telephone costs more effectively. Software for this project needed to be developed to provide all the necessary reports at all levels to management.

The development phase of the TMS was completed after only three months, after which the programming of the databases had to be authenticated. TMS operators were trained and the TMS was ready to be implemented in June 2004.

The following characteristics are an integral part of the TMS:
- Down time must be kept to a minimum.
- The system must be trustworthy.
- All calls must be accounted for. No data must be discarded in the process of compiling user telephone invoices.
- Management of the system must be easy and transparent.

The new TMS makes the following positive contributions to the DOD:
- It uses the available data networks within the DOD and no private networks are involved.
- The TMS is a centralised database and is used throughout the DOD, with the added benefit that the processes and tariffs are standardised.
- Any computer linked to the DOD LAN system can access the system.
- The TMS is transparent at all levels in the DOD.

The following information can be derived from the TMS:
- Reports for specific budgetary entities.
- Special reports on exceptions.
- Reports on the effectiveness of the backbone of the telephone systems.
- Minimal loss of telephone call cost data.
- Management information for budget predictions.

The TMS needs the following information to provide the correct reports for managers: (It is the responsibility of each telephone user to report mistakes or changes in the system to the TMS operator on site so that it can be rectified)
- Surname and initials of the user.
- Force number and rank of the user.
- Room number of the user.
- Post of the user.
- Budget holder of the user.
- Department where the user works.

The system is set to provide the following reports to managers:

- Reports for Unit/Department Commanders. This report can be requested to indicate a summary of

Schematic Layout of the Telephone Management System (TMS).
Report for Budget Holders.

Lt Col Luther Jacobs: User System Management.

Maj Hein Pheil: Technical Support.

The report is very helpful in investigating telephone call costs. The report not only indicates the numbers dialled by the member, but also the telephone calls received by the member. This report is very helpful in investigations.

The process to accumulate the reports, as mentioned above, is to create separate users within each department. Each user is now tagged with a number that indicates to which budget holder he or she belongs. The TMS compiles and accumulates all users with the same number and thus completes the necessary reports. All these actions take place at the server situated at the Military Base Wonderboom.

All information is stored at this centralised server for a period of six months. Reports may be requested for the past six months as the previous data is secured and available off-line.

One of the critical points of the TMS is that users have to declare each call and indicate which private numbers dialled were work related. In a letter to their Commanders, users can request that these numbers be registered as official. This signed document must then be handed over to the TMS operator on site, who will update the system accordingly. No declarations are now needed on these specific telephone numbers.

Here are a few guidelines for utilisation by users and managers to cut down on official telephone costs:

**For Users**
- Plan calls in advance.
- Cut out small talk.
- If a call is not necessary, rather use Lotus Notes.
- Avoid private calls as far as possible.
- SSN numbers should be used because these calls are free.

**For Managers**
- Sensitise subordinates to use telephones responsibly.
- Utilise TMS reports available for budgetary purposes.
- Ensure that members declare and pay for private calls made by them.
- Eliminate any telephone cost-increasing factors by doing monthly check-ups.

All managers in the DOD can make use of the TMS function to gain information on how to manage their telephone accounts more effectively.

To bring about savings regarding telephone call costs, the improved management information obtained from the TMS is of great importance and very effective. Successes in this regard can already be seen in the 04/05 financial year where a saving of 16% was indicated on the DOD telephone account.

Although the DOD now possesses a very powerful tool to manage telephone call costs, it will be worthless and a waste of taxpayers’ money if the responsibility for managing the TMS is not adhered to at all levels in the DOD.

The CMIS Division cannot bring down the telephone cost expenditure. This responsibility lies with all users and managers.
Spotting young talent

By Nomonde Vuthela
Photo: Cpl René Naicker

A Soldier spoke to the Chairperson of the SA Army Interviewing Board, Maj Hannalie Anker, about the Military Skills Development (MSD) System.

Maj Anker and her team are from the Army Human Resource Section’s SA Army Selection Board and are responsible for identifying those bright young people who will one day do the SA Army proud.

Speaking to SA Soldier Maj Anker explained how the SA Army Selection Board goes from province to province hand-picking youngsters for the DOD Youth Training Foundation Programme and identify new members for the Military Skills Development (MSD) System.

"The SA Army Selection Board conducts interviews throughout the year at different venues spread across the country. These trips also become roadshows that serve as an excellent means of selling the SA Army to young South Africans," said Maj Anker.

"Firstly we gather everybody and show visuals and DVDs about the SA Army," Maj Anker said. She explained that having seen a visual presentation of the SA Army improves the chances of the children conducting themselves better during the interviews. The interviewing panel is comprised of an officer and a warrant officer. There are usually five different panels at a single venue to improve on efficiency and accuracy.

"Selection Board members are well-trained so that they can easily identify the profile of the young person needed. They are also trained to be constantly vigilant so that they do not end up losing good people," she added.

"During the interview we tell the young people about the SA Army and that there is the combat side, namely infantry, armour and artillery, as well as a non-combat side, namely the support side, such as human resources, logistics, catering, etc," she added. "We involve all the different aspects of the Army because the main intent is to get the correct type of person to suit the different Army profiles. We also have a standard questionnaire in which we ask the interviewee about the SA Army."

"There are certain skills we are looking for," Maj Anker said. The youngsters are invited to the interview a month in advance and the interviewers have a file for each interviewee. The selection process takes all day because the applicant also goes through a psychometric test, the taking of fingerprints and a medical examination. These interviews are conducted within a week at every set venue. A scoring system, out of 40, is used to grade each interviewee. Each interviewee is asked eight questions.

Those that make it through the entire proceedings will receive yet another letter two months later stating the date and venue of the next meeting. Some will come directly into the Military Skills Development (MSD) System and others into the DOD Youth Training Foundation. Those that enter the SA Army as MSD students will then sign a two-year contract to be reviewed when the two years end. They spend their first three months doing Basic Military Training.

"Depending on the individual’s conduct and the availability of posts, they may be given an additional five-year contract," said Maj Anker.

According to Maj Anker the main challenges to this whole process is the fact that some of the candidates travel long distances to get to the interviews. She explained that transportation and meals remain the individual’s responsibility because of current budget constraints. It is only after the child is taken into the system that they then become the responsibility of the State.

From left: WO2 Danny Matshwane, Maj Hannalie Anker and S Sgt Stewart Temboer of the SA Army Selection Board.
Umbhali wenqaku nomthathi wefotosi ngu Lt Col Ben van Zijl SO1 we-Reserve Force ekiwOfsi yeCandelo le-Reserve Force kuMmandla waseGauteng (Translated into IsiXhosa by Mrs N.P. Ndwandwe)

"Njengabaphathi bamashishini, ninendawo ebalulekileyo nexabisekileyo, ekufezekiseni izibopho zangomso zomkhosi."

Lowo bekungumyalezo osuka kwi-SANDF uya kubaphathi bamashishini kunye nabaqashi be-Reserve Force kwidinala eliseskweni ebelise-Paratus Mess eseKholejini le-SA Army eThaba Tshwane nge 5 kwinyanga ka Canzibe kulo nyaka esikuwo.

Ababekhona kulo dina ka ngosomashishini nabaqashi abaneMqabane belelo enkulu kweli iziwwe kunye namagqala amele uMkhosi woKhusele, uNobhala woMkhosi kunye naba-Lawuli babalPhathi bamajoni eziqubqi ze-Reserve Force eGauteng.

OyiNtloko ye-Joint Operations uLt Gen S.Z. Binda wazise oosomashishini ababalulekileyo baseMzantsi Afrika ngezabelo eziphathelene nomkhosi. Utheretho ngomgqazo nkgubo wo-Mzantsi Afrika wokuthatha inyathelo lokukala kwizinto ezenzeke eAFrika kunye nendima yeSANDF kuloo mannyathelo, iziphumo zenguqulelo ezijongene noMkhosi woKhusele, Izizwe eziManyeneyo (UN), kunye noMnayano lwAfrika (AU) abathunywe ukuyokukudala uxolo, kunye nendima edlalwe ngamagqola kunye nabanamjoni e-Reserve Force nezizwakahlukwa zokhusele zokuphamba zemfazwe, iNyathelo lokukala lokuNyusa nokuKhulisa iZabelo eMzantsi Afrika (Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of SA) - ASGI-SA kunye ne-Service Corps.

* The English version of this article is available on page 13. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.

Lt Gen S.Z. Binda, oyiNtloko ye Joint Operations

---

**Attention**

**DOD members!**

**South African Soldier Classifieds**

---

**Request to donate volleyball equipment**

I am involved in training the youth to play volleyball in the area where I stay - their response is enormous.

My problem is that I do not have sufficient equipment to carry out my task. I am therefore asking for any volleyball equipment that the units no longer use, eg balls, jerseys, nets, posts or any other volleyball equipment.

I can be contacted at tel no: (012) 671 0373, fax no: (012) 671 0512 or cell no: 084 389 9622 - Cpl A. Ndlovu, Pretoria.

---

**Donation of equipment needed**

I am presently working as a security instructor. I am an upcoming motivational speaker and a poet, and am currently looking for greener pastures.

I want to push this talent of mine and would appreciate help from any person, especially sponsors and funds from Government and private companies. My dream is to end up in Arts and Culture. I am good at producing adverts and at motivational speaking.

You are welcome to call me any time for auditions. I will send my videos and CDs as proof of my talent.

Please contact Modumo Masombuka at cell no: 072 550 6560.

---

1998. I have done voluntary work at St Rita’s Hospital for a period of two years to expand my knowledge. I am also a member of the SANDF, serving in a commando unit. To invest in my future I am planning to start a small printing business, but I am unable to afford the required equipment.

I would like to appeal to all SA Soldier readers to help me by donating the following equipment: a photocopier machine, an all-in-one fax, a printer scanner, a copier machine and a computer. (Second-hand equipment will also be accepted.)

Please contact Richard Moraka (Loskop Commando) at cell no: 082 628 2875 or Grace at cell no: 073 657 6475.

---

I am involved in training the youth to play volleyball in the area where I stay - their response is enormous.

My problem is that I do not have sufficient equipment to carry out my task. I am therefore asking for any volleyball equipment that the units no longer use, eg balls, jerseys, nets, posts or any other volleyball equipment.

I can be contacted at tel no: (012) 671 0373, fax no: (012) 671 0512 or cell no: 084 389 9622 - Cpl A. Ndlovu, Pretoria.

---

I completed Grade 12 in 1996 and an Executive Secretarial Diploma in 1998. I have done voluntary work at St Rita’s Hospital for a period of two years to expand my knowledge. I am also a member of the SANDF, serving in a commando unit. To invest in my future I am planning to start a small printing business, but I am unable to afford the required equipment.

I would like to appeal to all SA Soldier readers to help me by donating the following equipment: a photocopier machine, an all-in-one fax, a printer scanner, a copier machine and a computer. (Second-hand equipment will also be accepted.)

Please contact Richard Moraka (Loskop Commando) at cell no: 082 628 2875 or Grace at cell no: 073 657 6475.

---

**Looking for sponsors**

I am presently working as a security instructor. I am an upcoming motivational speaker and a poet, and am currently looking for greener pastures.

I want to push this talent of mine and would appreciate help from any person, especially sponsors and funds from Government and private companies. My dream is to end up in Arts and Culture. I am good at producing adverts and at motivational speaking.

You are welcome to call me any time for auditions. I will send my videos and CDs as proof of my talent.

Please contact Modumo Masombuka at cell no: 072 550 6560.
When Capt Trudie Morkel came into the SANDF as a student in 1995 she had no idea that eight years down the line she too would be one of the many instructors at the South African Military Health Service (SAMHS) Academy responsible for the shaping of the minds of young Military Skills Development (MSD) students.

"The MSD students are learning to be Operational Emergency Practical Practitioners. Once they graduate they will work on ambulances and also give support in the field and provide medical treatment accordingly," Capt Morkel explained. "I am teaching the students how to diagnose the patients, for instance if they are deployed in Burundi or the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), they will consult the patient, do the necessary physical examinations, diagnose the patient and prescribe the necessary medication. The course runs for about two years.

"Teaching the MSD students is a pleasant experience. They are eager to learn, and this is something they can always take with them," she said and added. "It is hard work to teach them, but it feels good to be in charge and not to be a student anymore. I always tell the students that you have to work hard to get to where you want to be."

"The students should always make sure that they do something that they are really interested in, because it is something they are going to have to do for a long time. Speak to the people already working in the profession of your choice and only then come on board," Capt Morkel continued.

Private Lesego Kgatlha is a twenty-year old MSD student from Pretoria West in Gauteng. She read about the SANDF in a newspaper and found out that MSD application forms could be collected from the Recruitment Office at the Bank of Lisbon Building in Pretoria. "On the application form I indicated that I wanted to be in the SAMHS. When I was accepted I was told about the courses and the different routes that I could take," Pte Kgatlha recalled and added: "They explained about nursing, logistics, operations, patient administration and many other courses."

"When we first got here we did the basic ambulance course. Then we went to different provinces for our practicals, worked in hospitals and sickbays, and after that we came to the SAMHS Academy to do ambulance emergency assistance training. We..."
also gained practical experience out in the streets. The last course that we are going to do will equip us with the necessary skills needed when deploying,” she added. “The idea of saving lives is very exciting. I am a very dedicated person and my current goal is to get my ‘Ops Medic’ badge. Afterwards I am going to study further. I am really looking forward to deployment.”

A fellow student, Pte Bridget Mathumo from Rustenburg, applied to the SAMHS so that she could one day become a doctor. “When I was doing Grade 12, SANDF members came to our school and told us about the MSD System. They told us about the SAMHS and I took an interest because I wanted to be a doctor,” Pte Mathumo said. “My aim is eventually to get a bursary and study medicine.”

“Before I came here I used to think that the SANDF was only about war. Now I know better. I also know that you must first go to school and qualify,” said Pte Mathumo. “After I qualify as an ‘Ops Medic’ I can apply for a bursary to further my studies at the Medical University of South Africa (Medunsa).”

She continued: “I am a hard worker and being a doctor is not just about the money, but about being there for people and saving lives.” Her subjects in high school were Biology, Physical Science, Mathematics, Geography, English, Setswana and Afrikaans.

Private Vela Kekana from Naboomspruit in the Limpopo Province said she merely sat at home after passing matric because her parents could not afford to send her to university. “I bought the City Press newspaper every Sunday to look for career opportunities. I came across an SANDF article.” She added: “I checked the information and decided against applying to the Navy because I was scared of water. Instead I chose the SAMHS because the idea of nursing appealed to me.”

“I cut out the form and made many copies which I then gave to my friends. We all applied. I chose to be an Operational Emergency Practical Practitioner because I felt I fitted the requirements. I was eventually invited to Pretoria for an interview,” she said. “It was the first time I had been to Pretoria on my own so I was very scared, but I made it.”

“They called me after two months and told me that I had passed the interview and that they were expecting me back in Pretoria in January of the following year,” Pte Kekana recalled. “The only problem was that I had not done Biology at school.”

“It was really hard for me in the beginning; I just could not understand the medical terms and I failed my basic ambulance course. I had to learn those medical terms in order to understand them, but eventually I got used to the terms and I finally passed the course,” she said.

“After I graduate as an ‘Ops Medic’ I want to work for about two years and gain a little experience. I also want to deploy and see what is going on in the rest of Africa. After that I want to study disaster management,” she said, revealing her future plans. “I want to become an officer by doing all the necessary courses to qualify.”

“After ten years I will perhaps be a Brigadier General and after that I could even become the Surgeon General. To all the MSD students that are here and those still to come, I say nothing is impossible! If I can make it, so can they,” said Pte Kekana, offering some words of wisdom.
**Sesole sa difofane se amogela di-Hawk tse pedi**

**Ka CO Frans Pale, mojenailese wa Ad Astra**  
(Translated into Setswana by Frans Moshapo)

Kgorogo ya di-Hawk MK120 di le pedi tsa modiro wa Boritani tse e bong di lead-in-fighter aircraft kwa AFB Makhado profensing ya Limpopo ka letlha la 24 Ngwanatsele 2006 en nnilile boitumelo jo bo tlhokang selekano.

Kgorogo e ya di-Hawk tse pedi ke tshimologo ya lenane la go tlisa difofane tse lesome tsa nthla tseo di tshwanetseng go tliswala mo sesoleng sa difofane ke British Aerospace System (BAE), e bong setlamo sa difofane kwa Boritane. Di le somenne tse di setseng di sa ntshane di tokafadwa ke ga Denel Aviation kwa Kempton Park, mme di tla isiwa kwa AFB Makhado ka Lwetsi.

Mo leatsings le legolo le, Molaodi wa AFB Makhado o ile a buwa le badiri ba sesole sa diphofo mmogo le babeadikgang. O rile kgweltho e kgolo e e lebaganeng le 85 Combat Flying School ke go tlhagisa bakatsi ba tlhase-lo-ka-difofane le borategeniki ba ba tla tsamaisang Gripen aircraft ya modiro wa kwa Sweden e e tla nnae kwa 2 Squadron kwa AFB Makhado fa di fetsa go goroga ka 2008.

Di-Hawk tsa lead-in-fighter trainer di tlhagisitswe ka fa tlase ga Strategic Defence Package go refosa di-SA Air Force Impala fighter trainer seso di setlamo sa difofane sa diphofo dingwaga di le somamane tse di fetileng.

*The English version of this article is available on page 25. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.*

**Go tswa molemeng go ya moyeng:**  
Lt Col J.H. Scott (Hawk Test Pilot), Lt Col I. Pentz (Reserve Force: Hawk Test Pilot), Col J.W. Baine (Hawk Project Officer) and Lt Col D.J. van der Linde (Molaodi wa 85 Combat Flying School) fa pele ga di-Hawk.

---

**Preventing and combating terrorism**

**By Cheryl Smith, Web Marketer IQPC SA**

Terrorism by nature is difficult to define. Acts of terrorism cause emotional responses in the victims (those hurt by violence and those affected by the fear), as well as in the practitioners. Even the US Government cannot agree on one single definition. An old adage goes: “One man’s terrorist is another man’s freedom fighter”.

Terrorism poses a great threat to individual lives and national security around the world. Government officials and leaders of countries are now exploring methods and tactics to combat terrorism, but still many questions remain unanswered.

“Preventing and Combating Terrorism 2006” is Africa’s first-ever summit on the subject that will bring together leading terrorism authorities from around the world to seek solutions to the global problem of terrorism.

The summit will touch on real issues affecting Africa and examine the latest methods of combating terrorism, such as how to identify and curb terror financing, money laundering, profiling terrorists and the impact of religious radicalisation.

If you are involved in peacekeeping, military, research or defence related operations you cannot afford to miss this event.

Your attendance at this Pan-African event is crucial.

Join DefenceIQ and well respected speakers in the period from 29 to 31 August 2006 at the Castle at Kyalami in Johannesburg.

If you are unable to join us, feel free to download the conference materials from [http://www.iqpc.co.za](http://www.iqpc.co.za) to remain informed.

For more information visit: [http://www.DefenceIQ.co.za](http://www.DefenceIQ.co.za) or email us at info@iqpc.co.za
A number of welfare organisations, including the SAAF Association, the SAAF Hospice, the SA Golf Development Trust and the SA Sports Trust for sportsmen and women with disabilities benefited from this golf day. Two boxes overflowing with donated golf clubs, balls, bags, shirts, caps and shoes were also presented to Mr Martin Pinto of the SA Golf Development Trust.

In addition a cheque for the development of sport among persons with disabilities was presented to Mr Andy Scott, who represented the SA Sports Trust.

In his address at the prize-giving dinner the Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, spoke about the intentions of the Air Force with regard to the utilisation of the funds raised that day.

“We have donated funds from the benevolent fund to the spinal unit and the hospice over a number of years. I have now decided that we will in future be focusing more internally on Air Force people, and specifically on the children of Air Force personnel. We will assist where children are in need due to the specific requirements of sickness or otherwise. We hope that through this initiative we will be able to make a difference to the lives of our people and give a very clear signal that we care,” he said.

A short display and flypast by Capt Jono Sterling in one of the SAAF’s newly acquired Agusta A109 light utility helicopters, entertained guests, while mutual interest in the SAAF encouraged the growth of comradeship among the DOD and senior members of stakeholder companies.

As tradition would have it, a scroll for the sponsorship of the 2007 Benevolent Golf Day was also auctioned off and finally secured by Eurocopter with a bid of R100 000 at the dinner.
The dreaded stigma attached to therapy

By Lana-Lee Kagan, Clinical Psychologist (AMHU Gauteng)

The fear of “mental illness” or “insanity” and the stigma associated with others knowing you are “seeing a psychologist” or other health care professional often leave individuals caught in their suffering. Entangled in joyless lives, the fear of being seen as “crazy” frequently prevents individuals from seeking the very help that they need.

The stigma of therapy seems to be related to the history regarding the treatment of the “mentally ill” and the conception of “mental illness”. The idea of mental illness was born out of a conception that “insane” behaviour was evidence of being possessed by evil spirits or demons. This perception is still regarded as true in South Africa today in many religious communities and among various African cultures. Historically, these individuals were treated as outcasts and were objects of fear and contempt.

With the advent of medical research, the view of “insane behaviour” shifted from demonic possession towards a *medical model* of mental illness. People were viewed as “sick” and treatment was focused on curing the “physiological or biological sickness”. This shift towards a medical approach slowly began reducing the fear surrounding “irrational behaviour”. Sigmund Freud’s (1855-1926) introduction of his theories of psychoanalysis transcended the medical model and brought attention to social and psychological factors that contribute to the manifestation of emotional instability.

The shift away from a purist medical model has since seen the growth of psychology as a field of inquiry and with it much research has been devoted to the understanding of human development, behaviour, personality, interaction, motivation, and so on. The findings in this regard have constantly helped professionals and society overall to improve the perception of “emotional problems” and “mental illness”, as well as to consider therapy as a useful treatment domain.

**Dispelling the fears**

Despite these historical developments many people still view therapy as taboo. Often feelings of shame and inadequacy are the first responses to a suggestion that professional help may be required in order to deal with a personal problem or traumatic event. It seems that individuals are uneasy about revealing their personal lives to a stranger. Why is this the case? It is often understood as an issue related to the loss of freedom and control over one’s self.

Individuals seem to feel that they should be able to solve all their problems on their own. It reflects a highly valued Western ideology of individualism, which often leads to people feeling incompetent and inadequate when problems seem to be unsolvable, and when they worsen over time. They avoid seeking assistance, as it tends to represent some sort of defeat. Society needs to become comfortable with the idea that individuals are interdependent and that asking for help in solving an emotional problem is no less demeaning than asking a doctor to stitch up a cut.

Furthermore, therapists are not “sorcerers” who have magical powers to manipulate your mind and take away control. In fact it is a relationship of mutual trust in which the client is in more control than the therapist. The therapist is bound by ethical restrictions of professionalism and confidentiality whereas the client is not.

The stereotype of being seen as “crazy” is a misconception of the multiple uses of therapy. Therapy is not only for psychotic or schizophrenic patients. Therapy is a useful context in which to deal with various stresses impacting on one’s life. The majority of people in therapy are regular individuals who are experiencing emotional pain, stress or interpersonal problems in a particular area of their life.

The range of human problems and
struggles is endless and the scope of therapy is equally infinite. From “severe disorders” at the one end of the spectrum to people with personality difficulties, addictions, relationship issues, family traumas, anxiety, psychosomatic health problems, emotional outbursts, marital conflicts, depression, an inability to cope with everyday issues, and desires to enhance self-awareness and growth are all issues that may result in a visit to a psychologist’s office. Therapy can help individuals to get to know themselves better and achieve greater responsibility for their lives.

**Avoiding change**

Holding on to stigmatised stereotypes of therapy and fears of being seen as “crazy” may often be an underlying resistance or excuse to becoming proactive towards bringing about change in one’s life with regard to the problems being experienced. In this respect one will use these old myths and attitudes towards therapy as a way of not dealing with the problems. Even though a problem is painful, distressing and difficult for an individual, it strangely becomes comfortable and something that one “knows” how to live with. There is often more fear involved in solving the problem(s) as one delves into areas of unpredictability and therefore into the “unknown”. Individuals will therefore attempt to avoid change, as it is safer to live with what one “knows” than to change it. This fear is also often present in the therapy itself and this can inhibit the effectiveness of therapy overall.

**How does therapy help?**

Therapy creates a context for individuals, couples, and families to address the root of the problems being experienced. Therapy can be understood as a context in which the possibilities of change and/or stability and/or healing may emerge. Therapy is a process which requires the client to take an active role in trying to work through different ideas in order to gain a greater understanding of the problems.

Therapy is a context in which an impartial, trusting, empathetic relationship develops and stories can be shared and revisited in order that the client may engage in a meaningful experience, and controllable solutions can be obtained. Therapy is not, however, an easy or restful experience; rather, it involves conversations with the therapist whose questions often stir up some emotional discomfort.

Furthermore, the role of the therapist is not necessarily to provide advice. The goal is for the client to become aware of what’s happening within himself or herself and those around him or her so as to come to his or her own manageable solutions. Establishing a rapport with the therapist can eliminate the preconceptions with which an individual may view therapy. It is also common, however, to experience resistance and the desire to quit. This often takes place when the therapy touches on difficult areas that provoke fear of change. Persevering through this may result in your wanting to know more about what is making you think, feel and act the way you do.

**Where can you get help?**

Psychologists, psychiatrists and social workers form part of a pool of resources available to military personnel and their family members. All professionals in the military are licensed with the Health Professions Council of South Africa and have therefore acquired the necessary qualifications and requirements to register as professionals with this Council.

For more information contact your nearest sickbay and enquire if there is a psychologist on the staff or where one may contact one in the area.

---

**Be a hero on Casual Day**

**By Isabel Killian, Promotion and Publicity: Casual Day**

Although it seems as if Casual Day has become a household name in South Africa for many, there is still an enormous need for awareness creation and fund-raising for persons with disabilities in South Africa.

First of all we would like to thank everyone in South Africa who participated in last year’s project by donating R10 in support of persons with disabilities. Their participation enabled the project to raise over R10.1 million for the six national beneficiaries, all rendering services in the field of disability. An important aspect of this total is that it was not accomplished by huge donations by big corporations or wealthy contributors, but by R10 + R10 + R10... donated by the citizens of South Africa.

This year Casual Day challenges everyone to be a “Hero” for persons with disabilities and to provide the wind beneath their wings to fly stronger - for they can all fly, but to enable them to soar to new and greater heights.

For a R10 donation you can get your official Casual Day sticker from any Absa branch, a participating NGO, any Game or Dion outlet or directly from the Casual Day website at: www.casualday.co.za and by wearing it you can “use your power to empower” persons with disabilities in South Africa.

Friday, 1 September 2006, is Casual Day and by sporting the official Casual Day sticker you won’t need to wear a superhero outfit to prove that you are a true hero!

For more information regarding Casual Day phone tel no: (012) 663 8181 or fax no: (012) 663 8188 or email: casualday@mweb.co.za or visit the website: www.casualday.co.za or write to: PO Box 10534, Centurion, 0046
Success chapter of civic education

By Lethube Phasha
Photo: Sgt Brendon Stewart

A two week long course - The Training of Trainers Course - was presented by the Civic Education Centre of Excellence to SA Air Force members at SA Air Force College.

R Adm (JG) Alan Green, Director Formation Staff Joint Training, and Col Naomi Major, SSO Civic Education, officially closed this learning opportunity at the SA Air Force College on 7 April 2006. On this day both the certificate and closing ceremonies were held.

R Adm (JG) Green delivered a speech of encouragement to the members who had successfully completed the course. Shortly after the formal proceedings the members enjoyed a braai while interacting with their facilitators.

When talking to some of the members they seemed to have learned a lot from the whole course. So much so that they wished they had done it some time back so that they could come and do it again.

Most say that they now have a much better understanding and have also realised that they are actually capable academically.

Others feel that they are confident enough to facilitate the whole course for other members who would like to learn.

This course is part of Adult Basic Education Training (ABET), which was brought into the SANDF to help those members who left school early to join the SANDF or just had trouble finishing school. This is also to ensure that all members are able to further their studies and even acquire diplomas or any further certificates with minimal obstacles to learning.

The success rate of this course is obvious in the case of some of the students who, after such courses, are able to enrol at certain higher institutions in order to further their studies and who then end up graduating and receiving honours as best pupils.

Facilitators feel that this is owing to the fact that they have more discipline than younger people who feel that they still have more time on their hands. These people know that they have families to feed and the country to serve and protect. Well done to all SA Air Force members who successfully completed the course presented by the Civic Education Centre of Excellence.

* People who are interested to register for the Training of Trainers Course can phone CPO Golden Ngobeni at tel no: (012) 392 2438.
PO Brian Cleophas joined the SA Navy in 1993 as a caterer. He experienced some highlights during his naval career, e.g., in 1994 the SAS DRAKENSBERG represented South Africa at the Commonwealth service in Westminster Abbey in London.

He also sailed with the same South African vessel to America (twenty years since a South African vessel had visited the latter) and in 1994, he was interviewed by a French magazine on the standard of catering in the French Navy and the SA Navy.

In 1997, he began his studies and in 2003, he successfully completed two diplomas in theology through two different institutions.

In 2005, he completed his four-year Bachelor of Theology degree (known as Honours Level) and the degree was conferred on him on 25 February 2006 in Johannesburg.

Currently, he is registered at the University of South Africa (Unisa) for his Masters degree in theology, specialising in ethics.

After his masters, his next step is to pursue doctoral studies. “I do believe that you never stop learning because it is vital for one’s own development and that of others,” said PO Cleophas.

“In the same breath, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council of Trustees of the Chief of the SANDF Trust Fund, which granted me a bursary in 1997. Your financial support will always be remembered and my achievement is your achievement,” he continued.

Lastly, the main reason for summarising his achievements in the SA Navy is to motivate every individual to change his or her possibilities into realities.
The mental health rainbow biscuit

Article and photo by Jarret Clark, a member of the Bipolar and Related Disorders Association and a poet: The Druid of Centurion

The Mental Health rainbow biscuit is the first "The Power of One" product. It is a gift to the nation and the world.

It was created by Jarret Clark on the eve of 4 June 2006 as the forerunner to the Mental Health Month of July and Youth Day as the mental health consumers' contribution.

The rainbow biscuit is dedicated to Mr Nelson Mandela, our former President, and his drive for African unity through our diversity. (Robben Island was South Africa’s first mental institution from as early as 1700s and only decommissioned from such service in the 1930s. Many mental hospitals were former old military bases in South Africa, such as Fort Napier in KwaZulu-Natal, and Tara in Johannesburg was formerly known as the 134 Military Hospital.)

We are called the Rainbow Nation, but one part of this nation is not well-known. We should therefore all remember their contribution. Here I am referring to the Malay people, but to exclude the coloured people would be unfair. The Cape Malay was as instrumental in the creation of the rainbow biscuit as I was.

My recent origins are from all of South Africa’s main European roots, namely Coetsee (Dutch), Muller (German), Minnaar (French Huguenot) and Clark (UK: the second largest Scottish family, the Clan Chattan Confederation), and now African as the missing link in my origin from the same cradle of mankind.

The Afrikaans language should be known as the rainbow language of our nation rather than that which its recent past reveals, as the Malay and coloured people were instrumental in it (in particular the influence of the Genadendal community in the Western Cape) who formed the disadvantaged language at its birth as they were slaves and disadvantaged themselves. My two Afrikaans poems: "Politiek of Polimiek", and "Politiek in die Kombuis" reflect the true background (available on my website: www.thehouseofclark.co.za)

The rainbow biscuit was designed by me to be simple so that even a child could bake it under parental supervision, but still to be effective as a new addition to South African culture as it complements the initiatives of the African Renaissance.

Recipe for rainbow biscuits

For those who would like to make their own rainbow biscuits here are the step-by-step instructions on how to make them. (It should be Halaal and Kosher friendly, but I am no authority on that. It was a person with diabetes who designed it. The ribbon shape represents the rainbow and the "100s & 1 000s" represents the colours, its taste hopefully that of the future.)

Ingredients:
- 1 large cup of brown sugar (about 350 ml)
- 75 gram container of "100s & 1 000s"
- 400 gram roll of puff pastry

Method:

Use puff pastry, defrost according to instructions and use in cool environment as the pastry becomes so warm that it becomes too soft to handle. Prepare a flat bowl with a cup of brown sugar and 75 grams of "100's & 1000's" and mix it thoroughly.

Roll the pastry open, but it is not necessary to roll it out. Cut the pastry (long side) into three equal sides.

Cut thin strips (5 to 7 mm) of one third of the pastry lengthwise, roll it in the bowl of sugar and "100s & 1000s" until covered. When finished use the other two sections.

Shape the strip to the shape of a ribbon and place on an oiled (products such as Spray and Cook works well) flat pan with greased paper (necessary because the sugar caramelises and becomes very sticky with hot syrup). Place it in a preheated oven of between 200 to 220 degrees Celsius.

Most of the syrup that melts behaves the same as does that of a "koeksister". It draws into the pastry and when it dries out it becomes hard. This is what strengthens and forms this biscuit. The biscuit should be watched for browning as the time given (12 min) is only an indication.

The biscuits will cool down quickly and become firm and can then be placed in a suitable closed container to keep the moisture out.

The Chef’s Note: I use a pizza knife (roller) to cut the pastry; it is much more efficient. I also wet the pastry slightly with water when covered with flour or to dry, but do not make it too wet, and make sure the sugar mix covers it well to achieve the best result. It is also possible to make larger versions of the rainbow biscuit, but it will need some experimentation.

"The Power of One" - United we stand in mental health.

For more information please visit my website at: www.thehouseofclark.co.za
By Cpln (Past) Hein Kotze, Formation Chaplain SA Army Air Defence Artillery Formation

One finds many honest attempts to define hope, especially in Christian literature. Many of these, if not most, refer to hope as some future event, as if hope means that one will be appointed or promoted to a desired position, somewhere, somehow, sometime in the future. Or, that your relationship with your spouse will miraculously improve even though you suspect that you have married the devil’s own sister or brother. Or, that you will strike some kind of a jackpot, or score a multi-million lotto win out of the blue. (The latter hope of course has a particularly remote chance of being realised, rumoured to be a one in fourteen million chance).

To me this notion is mere wishful thinking, or to be more sympathetic, a commendable positive attitude regarding the future. On the other hand, I can live with optimism, because fake joy is always better than genuine depression. Still, this wishful thinking is far removed from reality, and it causes one to be forever reaching forward, stretching to a better tomorrow, wishing that your situation will somehow improve. One can become extremely bitter and actually grow sick if these hopes never realise.

Do you still hope or are you hopeless?

No, Hope is based on present reality. It points to the fact that the living God is present with us, and that His Spirit is on us, in us now. This day, this time, right here, right now.

Paul writing to the Roman church stated: "The God of hope would fill us with all joy and peace when we trust in Him, so that we may overflow with hope". (Rom 15:13). Again in Colossians 1:27, he declares "Christ in us is the hope of glory!"

My friends, when almighty God is with us, it means that He plans our future, and when He plans for us, all is peace. It implies that He will help us sort out our marital challenges and provide the grace for us to be reconciled and to change. It indicates that He is able and willing to fill all our needs. Take note, He will provide for our needs, not greed.

Do you have hope, or have you become hopeless?

Are you without God and without hope in this world? It must be awful to be hopeless. Soren Kierkegaard observed: "Despair is sickness unto death." When you have lost hope, you are in a bad state indeed.

Allow me to encourage you today.

KNOW that the God of hope is with you. Know that He will never leave you nor forsake you. He will guide and lead you, through every single day, through every single challenge you face now, tomorrow and even next year.

Question though is, are you with Him?

The problem of hopelessness does not lie with God, but with us. We tend to doubt and walk off on our own mission. We tend to forget God, while He is always there. In fact He is always here, willing and eager to bless and guide us.

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace today.

Be blessed!

Perseverance

By Cpl M.E. Tidbury, 3 SAI Bn Corp Comm NCO

Perseverance; Uithouvermoë; Nyamezela; Lkunyamezela; Kgotelana - "Perseverance is continued effort and determination" (in any language). If only the meaning of this most important word in a recruit’s life was on his or her call-up instruction, he or she would have a better idea of what to expect from the Military Skills Development (MSD) Programme. Some of them have never heard the word; some did not know the meaning of the word and some did not know the deeper meaning. But at 3 SA Infantry Battalion it is one of our goals to let the recruits experience this word "perseverance" in its full meaning.

They will do things they have never dreamed of doing and then they will smile afterwards and say: “It was nice, let’s go again”. Sometimes they will feel like they cannot go on and they do not want to go on, but we will encourage them and you will see how perseverance turns from a word into an action. There will be tears, there will be sweat, there will be blood and there will even be swearing sometimes, but the task will be completed and the goal reached.

One of the secret ingredients of success in our recipe at 3 SA Infantry Battalion, which we teach the recruits, is “perseverance”. If you make this word a part of your life, you will never fail in any goal you want to achieve. We strive to have every recruit know the deeper meaning of “perseverance” when we send him or her into the “Big Army” with the following quote: “When the going gets tough, the tough gets going”.

JULY 2006 • SA SOLDIER